



Put In Your 2¢ Worth...

About 2¢ a drink yields \$44 million annually to reduce the impact of alcohol problems in Missouri.

Question:

If you have an overwhelming list of problems, and have to make tough decisions, what is the best way to proceed?

Answer:

According to expert strategic planners, the most efficient and effective way to tackle an overwhelming list of problems is to target the ones that will have the strongest “ripple effect” on all or most of the others.

MISSOURI ALCOHOL IMPACT FACT #18

Alcohol has a significant impact on the problems faced in many sectors of Missouri’s economy. In terms of productivity of its employees, every agency of state government feels the effects of alcohol misuse, abuse and addiction.

Alcohol-related problems have a significant impact on the missions and budgets of, and the needs addressed by Missouri’s state agencies, especially:

- Mental Health
- Health and Senior Services
- Public Safety
- Corrections
- Judiciary
- Social Services
- Elementary and Secondary Education
- Higher Education
- Transportation
- Labor and Industrial Relations
- Insurance
- Economic Development

A three-year, state-by-state study by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse found that Missouri spent 12.5% of its budget “shoveling up the wreckage.” Only 3.2% was used to prevent substance abuse and provide treatment services. “Substance abuse and addiction (including alcohol) is the elephant in the living room of state government, creating havoc with service systems, causing illness, injury and death and consuming increasing amounts of state resources.”*

* Columbia University, National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA), “Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets,” New York, NY, 2001.

For more information call one of the Missouri’s Alcohol Impact Coalition members below:

Alicia Ozenberger
Missouri’s Youth Adult Alliance
573/635-6669
aozenberger@actmissouri.org

Gerrit DenHartog
Community Activist/Alcohol Policy Consultant
573/893-5448
gdenhartog@sprintmail.com

Angela Hirsch
MADD-Jefferson City
573/636-2460
madd-ed@earthlink.net