

The Partnership

Campus and Community united against dangerous drinking

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
HUB-Robeson Center, Room 134, University Park

Co-Chairs: Andrea Dowhower and Tom Fountaine

Members Present: Corinne Dinoski, John Gardner, Chris Hickey, Kristen Holzwarth, Adam Hoover, Dave Jordan, Jesse Kolb, Katy Larkin, Linda LaSalle, Ashley Linden-Carmichael, Denise McCann, Cierra Olsen, Nora O’Toole, Kyle Quinn, Danny Shaha, Wesley Sheets, Jeff Sorg, Brandi Stuart, Eric White, Matthew Winslow

Introductions

Committee Charge and a Brief History of The Partnership

- Partnership website: <https://sites.psu.edu/thepartnership/>.
- The group’s mission is:
 - To educate and support various sectors of the Centre Region as they work to change the Penn State and Community culture to reduce the high-risk behavior that can accompany the consumption of alcohol.
- The group was established in the late ‘90s.
 - High risk drinking was identified as a national public health problem, and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board provided funds to form collaborative groups between communities and universities.
- In the mid-2000s, State Patty’s Day was the group’s primary focus.
- In 2018-19, the group expressed interest in expanding its scope beyond State Patty’s Day to include other impactful events.
- The group is now being reestablished after pandemic-related interruptions.

Review of the 2022-2023 Annual Alcohol Assessment Report

- The up-to-date report and reports for prior years are available at: <https://sites.psu.edu/thepartnership/annual-reports/>.
- Linda LaSalle provided an overview of the report.
 - The report is intended to examine key metrics tracked over time.
 - National data show a reduction in college student alcohol use, and Penn State data mirror this trend.

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Subcommittee Structure and the Group's Next Steps

- What topics are of particular interest to the group?
 - Expand the focus beyond alcohol.
 - Areas of interest include cannabis, opioid, and other drug use.
 - Expand to consider other heavy episodic drinking events.
 - Halloween, first weekend of fall semester, etc.
 - Potentially review and update The Partnership's mission and vision statements (<https://sites.psu.edu/thepartnership/>).
 - Athletics Alcohol Task Force and alcohol sales at Beaver Stadium.
- In the past, there have been four committees:
 - Enforcement.
 - Education.
 - Late Night Alternative Activities.
 - Annual Alcohol Assessment Report.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2023, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the State College Municipal Building in Room 201 (Community / All-Purpose Room).