



Red Ribbon Celebration

College Initiative to Reduce High Risk Drinking

Ohio Resource Network Clearinghouse

Statewide Prevention Coalition Association

Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking

Volunteers In Prevention

Know!

Youth Philanthropy Council

Methamphetamine Initiative

[www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org](http://www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Know! Who's Driving the Kids

*Study Finds Youth are Riding with Impaired Drivers*

(Columbus, OH) – Parents, do you know who's driving your child this summer? You might be surprised to find out how many say they've ridden with someone who is impaired.

The 2006 Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Consortium, a program of the Educational Council, found that 19% of Franklin County middle school students and 27% of high school students had ridden in the car the past year with someone who had been drinking.

"It could be the babysitter, an older sibling or a friend of the family's that is getting behind the wheel impaired," Drug-Free Action Alliance Executive Director Patricia Harmon said. "Alcohol and drugs slow down a person's response time and increase their chance of crashing."

Drug-Free Action Alliance and its Know! program has this advice for parents:

- **Set a rule that there's to be no riding with someone who is impaired.** Don't assume that your child knows the rules and consequences.
- **Practice the answers.** Do role playing with your child to help them practice what they'll say when someone who is drunk or drug-impaired offers them a ride. Role playing ideas are available through [www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com).
- **Say it again.** Repeated reminders help to emphasize the importance you place on their health and safety.

[Drug-Free Action Alliance](http://www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org) is a statewide non-profit that provides leadership to promote safe and drug free communities. Facts about alcohol and drugs are available at [www.helpthemknow.com](http://www.helpthemknow.com) or by calling 1-866-999-KNOW.

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