# TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

II. UNDERAGE DRINKING

III. MARIJUANA USE

IV. CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN FAMILY & NEIGHBORHOOD ENVIRONMENTS

V. McK-UDOS’ PREVENTION STRATEGIES
McKINLEY PARK UNDERAGE DRINKING & OTHER SUBSTANCES COALITION (McK-UDOS)

McK-UDOS is composed of a multi-sector group committed to working together to prevent underage drinking and marijuana use among youth in the McKinley Park community of Chicago.

ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY (IYS)

Funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) since 1990, the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) is a statewide survey administered every other year to 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in schools throughout the state. The IYS gathers information on a variety of health-related behaviors, including substance use, mental health, violence, bullying, nutrition, and physical activity. It also assesses family, school, and neighborhood environments that contribute to youth substance use. It is available to all schools, public and private, at no cost. Each participating school receives a report that is specific to its student body. For more information, please visit: https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/.

SCHOOLS INVOLVED

- Thomas Kelly High School
- Evergreen Academy Middle School
- Brighton Park Middle School
- Pickard Elementary School

GRADES INVOLVED

- 8th: 189 students
- 10th: 230 students
- 12th: 179 students
- Total: 598 students
INTRODUCTION (CONT.)

BREAKDOWN BY GENDER

FEMALE 52%
MALE 48%

BREAKDOWN BY RACE/ETHNICITY

WHO DO YOU LIVE WITH MOST OF THE TIME?
More than 60% of students live with both parents. A little over 20% live in a single-parent household (mostly with their moms).

Over 95% of students are eligible to receive a free lunch.
UNDERAGE DRINKING

Average age of first having more than a sip or two of alcohol - **14.8 years old**

**MOST POPULAR TYPES OF ALCOHOL**
- Liquor with energy drinks
- Beer
- Liquor (vodka, whiskey, etc.)
- Alcopops (wine coolers, hard lemonade, hard cider)

**PERCEPTIONS OF PEER ALCOHOL USE COMPARED TO ACTUAL USE**
Teens perceive that most of their peers are drinking alcohol.
Among high school students, **58%** believe that over **50%** of the students at their school consumed alcohol in the past month. In reality, only **26.5%** of students drank alcohol in the past 30 days.

**TOP 3 SOURCES OF ALCOHOL**
1) A friend 2) A party 3) Parents with their permission

**ALCOHOL-RELATED CONSEQUENCES**
- Performed poorly on a test or important project
- Been in trouble with the police
- Damaged property
- Got into an argument or fight
- Been hurt or injured
- Been a victim of violent crime
- Been treated in a hospital emergency department

**17%** of high schoolers have experienced a negative consequence of alcohol 1-2 times in the past year.
Average age of first having smoked marijuana – 15.1 years old

PERCEIVED PEER NORMS
Nearly 37% of all high school students believe that they would be seen as cool by their peers if they smoke marijuana.

PERCEIVED RISK ASSOCIATED WITH USE
About half of all students perceive that smoking marijuana (1-2x a week) is not harmful to them physically or in other ways. This is double the number of students who believe that underage drinking is not harmful.

TOP 3 SOURCES OF MARIJUANA
1) A friend  
2) Someone who sells drugs  
3) Parents without their permission

PERCEPTIONS OF PEER MARIJUANA USE COMPARED TO ACTUAL USE
Among high school students, 59.5% believe that over 50% of the students at their school consumed marijuana in the past month. In reality, only 16% of students used marijuana in the past 30 days.
PARENT ALCOHOL MONITORING: WOULD YOU BE CAUGHT BY YOUR PARENTS IF YOU DRANK ALCOHOL WITHOUT YOUR PARENTS’ PERMISSION?

In 8th grade, about 35% of students report that they would never get caught by their parents if they drank alcohol without their parents’ permission. By the time students get into high school, nearly 60% report that they would never get caught.
McK-UDOS’ PREVENTION STRATEGIES

YOUTH

• Raise awareness among youth about the harms from marijuana use through a public education and social marketing campaign.
• Change youth perceptions about their peers drinking alcohol and using marijuana through a social norms campaign.

PARENTS

• Raise awareness among parents about the social host law, and the harms from underage drinking through a public education and social marketing campaign.
• Educate parents about the importance of communicating to their teens about not using alcohol and marijuana, and effective communication strategies through a public education campaign.
• Educate parents about the importance of parental monitoring, and effective strategies for monitoring their teens to prevent underage drinking through a public education campaign.

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY

• Raise awareness among community members (e.g. schools, businesses, law enforcement) about the social host law, and the harms from underage drinking through a public education and social marketing campaign.
• Mobilize the community to advocate for policies that prevent selling and using marijuana on school grounds and at local parks.
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