

LiveFree! **Be the Wall** Talking Points



- ✚ In the past 30 days in Pinellas County, about 66% of tenth graders and 54% of twelfth graders report that they did not drink alcohol. This is great news! Most Pinellas County youth don't feel that they need alcohol to have a good time.
*2008 Substance Use, Health, and Safety Survey
- ✚ As the community and parents continue to make an effort to clearly communicate with youth about making the right decision when it comes to alcohol and other drugs, we can empower even more teens to make these positive choices.
- ✚ In the past 30 days, 86% of the teens in Pinellas County middle schools and high schools chose not to engage in the heavy drinking or "binge drinking" of alcohol.
*2008 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey
- ✚ Everyday youth in Pinellas County are doing positive activities in their community such as participating in a LiveFree! youth club, playing sports, participating in a Step Team, National Honor Society, volunteering at community events, etc.
- ✚ In Pinellas County, most youth who report that they did drink recently, said they got the alcohol from a friend's house. This is why it is so important for parents to make sure that alcohol is not accessible to youth in their homes and to regularly talk to their teens using clear, firm and consistent messages to prevent underage drinking.
*Last Drink Survey given at the Pinellas Juvenile Assessment Center
- ✚ Over 65% of Pinellas County high school students report that their parents would find their use of alcohol very wrong or wrong. However, around 35% of Pinellas County teens don't get this message. Communicating with teens using clear no-drinking messages is very important to helping prevent underage drinking.
*2008 Substance Use, Health, and Safety Survey
- ✚ LiveFree! wants to thank Pinellas County merchants who sell alcohol and parents for making an effort to keep alcohol out of the hands of teens and for sending clear messages against underage drinking to youth. Thanks to these efforts, statistics show that most Pinellas County youth do not drink alcohol.