Excessive alcohol use is a serious public health issue in McKinley County, but there is much we can do. As a community, we can overcome many of these negative outcomes by working together to provide prevention education, support local efforts, and get involved in local coalitions, and participate in local alcohol and drug free community events.

**Excessive alcohol use led to approximately 92 deaths in McKinley County in 2015.**

1 in 4 deaths among working age adults (20-64) in McKinley County is attributable to alcohol.

In 2015, the McKinley County alcohol related death rate was the second highest alcohol related death rate in New Mexico. The most common cause being chronic liver disease.

Alcohol related deaths in McKinley County have increased 38% between 1999 and 2015.

**WHAT IS EXCESSIVE DRINKING?**

### HEAVY DRINKING

- **WOMEN:** Consuming 8 or more drinks per week
- **MEN:** Consuming 15 or more drinks per week

97% of adults in McKinley County are NOT drinking heavily

### BINGE DRINKING

- **WOMEN:** Consuming 4 or more drinks on an occasion
- **MEN:** Consuming 5 or more drinks on an occasion

91% of adults in McKinley County are NOT binge drinking

**ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM IS 100% PREVENTABLE. PREVENTING EXCESSIVE DRINKING CAN PREVENT ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM.**
DRINKING DURING PREGNANCY

There is NO SAFE AMOUNT of alcohol during pregnancy

94% of women in McKinley County DID NOT DRINK during third trimester of pregnancy.

(2009-2013 McKinley County: NM PRAMS)

ALCOHOL & MCKINLEY’S YOUTH

83% of McKinley County youth are not currently using any alcohol.

McKinley County has a lower reported rate of youth binge drinking than New Mexico or the U.S.

Providing alcohol to anyone under 21 is a FOURTH DEGREE FELONY and can mean up to 18 MONTHS BEHIND BARS

Contributing to the delinquency of a minor consists of any person committing any act or omitting the performance of any duty, which act or omission causes or tends to cause or encourage the delinquency of any person under the age of eighteen years.

Youth who begin drinking before age 15 years are six times more likely to develop alcohol dependence/abuse later in life than those who begin drinking at 21 years. (CDC)

RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

- Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention (A-SBI): Preventive service that involves asking a validated set of screening questions to identify a patient’s alcohol consumption and a short conversation with patients who are excessively drinking
- Reducing alcohol outlet density: Limiting the number of businesses selling and distributing alcohol in neighborhoods
- Enhanced enforcement of laws prohibiting sales to minors (<21 years of age)
- Mass media campaigns
- Limit the days and hours alcohol sales occur

For more information: