Community College Considerations

- More students that commute to school and work, and come from diverse ethnic or socioeconomic background than at 4-year institutions;
- Less opportunity for in loco parentis (i.e. acting in the place of parents) that has been an important part of addressing alcohol use at residential 4-year colleges;
- Smaller institutional student health and other services capacity and staff time.

Community Colleges Can Engage in the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 3-in-1 Prevention Framework

1. Identify students at higher risk through screenings, interviews or referrals by trained staff and faculty;
2. Engage in unique student population strategies such as e-social marketing messaging and interactive, web based alcohol education modules that can be accessed by students at a time or place of their choosing;
3. Cooperate with community and nearby campuses to share resources and visibly and actively intervene with off-campus locations where students may be most at risk of heavy consumption (e.g. nuisance enforcement operations, preventing sale of alcohol to minors, enforcing social host ordinances, using media to increase visibility of enforcements.

Sample of Community College Approaches

NY State Central Region College Consortia – Integrates community level policy and enforcement strategies into campus alcohol and drug use prevention efforts. Involves three coalitions in the region and any interested colleges.

Mesa Community College, AZ – Offers a Peervention Volunteer Program – student driven program where certified BACCHUS peer educators give campus information on prevention, consequences, and healthy life choices.

Houston Community College System, TX – Informs students every semester via electronic mail about policies and programs. Share recovery videos. Have committees, chaired by Chancellor of Student Success and comprised of representatives from police department, human resources, counseling, financial aid, and student life, review programming.

PG Community College, MD – Health education center provides health technology students with clinical experience. Engages in prevention programs and displays, counseling information.

SUNY Clinton Community College, NY - Conducts bi-annual CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey and uses data to create media campaigns to raise awareness on specific issues such as binge drinking. The most recent campaign, “Lead with Us, Following the Crowd Never Felt So Good,” educates students that more than half of their students don’t engage in binge drinking per their CORE survey.

Dutchess Community College, NY – offers an e-checkup online and alcohol and substance abuse education program by credentialed counselors.

Iowa Western Community College, IA – Gives links to court ordered and state recognized drinking and driving classes so students can get licenses back.

Pueblo Community College – Provides crisis intervention and referral programs. Doing anonymous student survey in Fall 2014 to determine if need prevention program.

Johnson County Community College, KS – Collaborates with county STOP underage drinking project; Participates in youth leadership summit.

Heartland Community College – Offers BASSET//STEPS training for Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers to: spot signs of intoxication; intervene to prevent DUls and alcohol related fatalities; stop underage drinking; educate owners, managers, and staff on insurance, state laws and ordinances.

Delaware Co. Community College, PA – Notifies parents of students under the age of 21 of alcohol and drug violations.

NE Community College – Utilizes comprehensive approach, taskforces, coalitions, and multiple strategies including: education; banning alcohol and alcohol advertisement on campus; changing normative environment; alcohol free social options; alcohol policies; increasing the consistency of enforcement; reducing marketing of alcohol; conducting early intervention; providing treatment referrals. Utilizes CHOICE brief alcohol prevention and harm reduction program for students that involves interactive journaling and reflections and encourages personal decisions about alcohol consumption.