

Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development

Oak Park Township

January 2017

Vicki Scaman, SPF-PFS Program Coordinator

Underage Drinking Needs Assessment Report

Local people solve local problems best.

This is a community assessment report guided by the Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development using the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to understand the complex problem of underage drinking in Oak Park and River Forest, Illinois.

“The factors that contribute to underage drinking and the related consequences differ from community to community. In order to effectively combat the problem, communities need an in-depth understanding of what the problem is and what’s contributing to it on a local level. Furthermore, when the community is involved and invested in the process of addressing the issue, prevention efforts are more likely to be sustained into the future. A community development approach to prevention empowers people to make things better and can mobilize people to take shared responsibility for improving community.”¹

In the book “Discovering the Meaning of Prevention: A Practical Approach to Positive Change,” William Lofquist emphasizes the importance of citizen capacity and participation with the following premises:

- People are their own best resources for bringing about change important to them
- Participation by people in shaping the conditions that affect them promotes ownership and vested interest in the change being sought and increases commitment to seeing that the change is achieved and maintained
- It is desirable to promote change through the use of the existing human, physical and financial resources of the community
- Prevention is essentially a local activity that focuses upon local conditions and concerns that affect people locally²

¹ Prevention First, Introduction to Needs Assessment, pg.9

² Prevention First, Introduction to Needs Assessment, pg 10 *Sources: Strategic Prevention Framework Advancement and Support, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; Lofquist, W.A.*

Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development

Required Sector Representatives:		
Oak Park	Name	Title
Law Enforcement	Anthony Ambrose	Chief of Police
	Dave Jacobson	Sergeant
Oak Park D97	Mike Padavic	Senior Dir. of Social Services
Liquor Commissioner	Jane Miller	Commissioner
River Forest		
Law Enforcement	Edith Buckner	Community Service Officer
	Glen Czernik	Crime Prevention Officer
River Forest D90	Edward Condon	Superintendent
	Barb Hickey	Board Member
Liquor Commissioner	Cathy Adduci	Village President
Oak Park and River Forest		
OPRF High School	Jenn Hoffmann	Assistant Principal for Student Services
	Ginger Colamussi	Student Assistance Program Coordinator
Community Stakeholders:		
Oak Park		
Youth serving organization	Maureen McCarthy	Park District of Oak Park
Faith-based	Rev. Kathy Nolte	Good Shepherd Church
Library	Susan McClelland	Health & Wellness Librarian
	Rob Simmons	Community Resource Manager
Board of Health,	Florence Miller	Chair
Health Department	Michael Charley	Interim Director
Mental Health	John Meister	Thrive, Executive Director
	Katherine Goldberg	Thrive, LCSW
Strive For Success	Candice Martin	TASC Caseworker
Community Mental Health	Vanessa Matheny	Grant Manager
Fire Department	Peter Pilafas	Deputy Fire Chief
River Forest		
RF Township	Carla Sloan	Supervisor
RF Community Center	Dick Chappell	Executive Director
University	Trudi Goggin	Dean of Students, Dominican University
Faith-based	Marc Fillion	First Presbyterian
Oak Park/ River Forest		
Community organization	Kelly O'Connor	IMP.A.C.T. Board member
	Dr. Bakahia Madison	IMP.A.C.T. Program Coordinator
Youth Serving	Phillip Jimenez	West Cook YMCA, Executive Director
	Kevin Radzinski	Young Life, Program Coordinator
Family Resource	Amy Starin	Parenthesis, Executive Director
Civic organization	Linda Francis	SAY, Program Coordinator
Business	Cathy Yen	OPRF Chamber of Commerce, Ex. Director
Mental Health	Amanda Norris	Riveredge Hospital

A. Coalition Description

1) Why and when the coalition developed, mission and vision statement

The **Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development** formed in the Fall of 2015 as the coalition that would use the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) process to develop a strategic plan and logic model for reducing underage drinking in Oak Park and River Forest, as reported by the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS). The SPF is a five-step planning process to guide the selection, implementation, and evaluation of effective, culturally appropriate, and sustainable substance abuse reduction activities.

The Strategic Prevention Framework has four distinctive features that contribute to success in promoting community level change:

- **It is driven by the concept of outcome-based prevention.** Outcomes-based prevention starts with looking at consequences of use, then identifying the patterns of consumption that produce these consequences.
- **It focuses on population-level change.** Population-level change forces a community to look at the constellation of factors, across related systems which influence substance use.
- **It focuses on prevention across the lifespan.** Traditionally, prevention has focused on adolescent consumption patterns. The SPF process includes looking at substance abuse for all age groups as part of the process for understanding underage drinking in the community.
- **It emphasizes data-driven decision-making.** The process requires communities to use data to describe their community, as well as their community's capacity to address identified problems. Likewise, communities are required to choose prevention programs and practices whose effectiveness is supported by data.

The Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development developed a vision and mission statement that would lead them through the SPF process.

Vision

Support youth in Oak Park and River Forest to be healthy and alcohol free.

Mission

The Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development brings the community together to identify and implement prevention strategies that support youth in making healthy choices to be alcohol free.

2) OPRF Workgroup for Positive Youth Development Organizational Structure

Oak Park Township received the Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success (SPF-PFS) grant through the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) in March of 2015. Oak Park and River Forest were identified as communities with higher rates of underage drinking compared to that of the state. On July 1, 2015 a full-time program coordinator was hired to manage the grant responsibilities of recruiting and maintaining a multi-sector coalition.

The OPRF Workgroup for Positive Youth Development is the multi-sector coalition, with membership from 11 sectors of Oak Park and River Forest; police, school, liquor commission designee, government, business district, youth-serving organizations, faith-based organizations, parents, youth, media, and civic groups; with attention to cultural, racial and socio-economic diversity to accurately represent the demographic of Oak Park and River Forest.

The coalition meets a minimum of 4 times a year. Coalition members are required to participate in a minimum of 2 meetings of the 4. Memorandums of understanding exist with state required sector partners; police, school and liquor commission designees; for support of participation including sharing of data and resources for the community assessment and evaluation of progress to reach coalition goals. Membership expectations are formally identified as: 1) be engaged in the process, 2) share resources for the process, 3) share data for purposes of developing a Strategic Plan to reduce underage drinking, and 4) participate in or provide resources for sub-committee work as the need is identified. Two sub-committees exist to serve the vision and mission of the coalition in reaching coalition goals; the Data Team and Leadership Team.

B. Introduction

This section summarizes data collected for the community profile, and sets the context for the underage drinking problem.

Geographical Characteristics

The Villages of Oak Park and River Forest serve as one community for the purposes of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) process to reduce underage drinking rates among 8th – 12th graders. Together they share a high school in Oak Park River Forest High School (OPRFHS).

Oak Park has approximately 52,008 residents and covers 4.7 square miles. River Forest has approximately 11,208 residents and covers 2.51 square miles. Oak Park and River Forest are suburban communities bordering the Westside of Chicago with a combined 63,216 residents covering 7.21 square miles. Oak Park has a more urban feel with a population density of 11,076 people per sq. mile versus 4,468 people per sq. mile in River Forest. River Forest has a significant amount of land devoted to forest preserve and parks.

Demographic information from city-data.com 2014	Oak Park		River Forest	
Square Miles	4.7		2.51	
Population (2013)	52,008		11,208	
Population Density (2014)	11,076 people per sq. mile		4,468 people per sq. mile	
Median Income (2013)	\$77,760		\$111,819	
Unemployment (2015)	4.2%		5.2%	
Crime (2013)	241.2/ U.S. Average 294.7		174.2/ U.S. Average 294.7	
% Living in Poverty (2013)	8.4%		6.1%	
College Educated	65.9%		76%	
Gay/ Lesbian couples	1.6%		.9%	
Racial Demographics	%	Total	%	Total
White	62.2	32,422	80.9	9,099
Black	22.3	11,629	5.8	653
Hispanic	6	3,146	4.4	499
Asian	5.1	2,639	5.7	644
Two or more races	3.7	1,915	2.6	287
Other race alone	.4	205	N/A	N/A
American Indian	.05	28	.01	16

The Village of Oak Park is a home-rule community that operates under the Village Manager form of government. An elected body of a President/Mayor and six trustees hire a professional manager to oversee the day to day administration of government programs and services. The Village of Oak Park is served by the Oak Park Police Department, with has 116 officers.

The Village of River Forest is a non-home rule community that is governed by the Village President and Board of Trustees. The Village operates under a Trustee-Village form of government. The Village Board establishes policy and hires a professional administrator to manage day to day operations of the Village. The Village of River Forest Police Department has 28 officers.

Oak Park and River Forest School Districts

The Villages of Oak Park and River Forest have 3 Public School Districts; 2 Elementary and 1 High School District, with several parochial schools. 2 Oak Park parochial schools are included in the Oak Park River Forest community IYS data because more than 50% of their 8th grade enrollment consists of Oak Park or River Forest residents while other parochial schools in the community do not meet that minimum requirement. The total number of 8th – 12th graders in Oak Park and River Forest is approximately 4,158 students.

District	School	Village	Grades	Enrollment of 8th – 12th
D90	Roosevelt Middle School	River Forest	8	164
D97	Percy Julian Middle School	Oak Park	8	315
D97	Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School	Oak Park	8	294
Parochial	St. Giles Catholic Elementary School	Oak Park	8	50
Parochial	Ascension Catholic Elementary School	Oak Park	8	41
D200	Oak Park River Forest High School	Oak Park	9-12	3,294
TOTAL				4158

Academic performance is a high priority in Oak Park and River Forest. Oak Park River Forest High School is known as a high performing, racially and socio-economically diverse high school that excels in academics and the arts. Yet an achievement gap is still of great concern. 89% of

OPRFHS graduates enroll in a 2-4 year College or technical school, as reported by OPRFHS Assessment and Research Department.

Demographic Characteristics – Oak Park and River Forest 8th – 12th graders

8th - 12th Grade	2016
Total Enrollment	4158
Percent White	54%
Percent Black	22%
Percent Hispanic	11%
Percent Asian	3%
Percent American Indian	>1%
Percent Pacific Islander	0
Percent Two or More Races	9%
Percent Low Income	22%

Income levels

Oak Park and River Forest have a higher than average percentage of high income families mixed with a notable percentage of low income. The medium household income in Oak Park is \$20,000 higher than that of the State median and River Forest's median is nearly double the State average. 22% of Oak Park 8th graders and Oak Park River Forest High School students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.

Prevention Landscape

Oak Park and River Forest are located just west of Chicago. Oak Park is a densely populated community with 12 business districts. River Forest is more residential with more land designated to parks. River Forest is home to Dominican University and Concordia College. Oak Park and River Forest are surrounded by neighboring communities; Chicago, Berwyn, Forest Park, and Elmwood Park. Key informant interviews with local liquor officials, police, and youth identify surrounding communities as having fewer restrictions and gaps in enforcement on liquor licenses than either Oak Park or River Forest. The proximity of these communities to Oak Park and River Forest is noted as contributing to underage drinking in the same key-informant interviews.

Park District parks in both communities are fairly well lit and monitored. Interviews with Police in River Forest and Park District staff in Oak Park did not identify evidence of underage drinking

in local Park District parks. Interviews with Park District staff report that reminding parents that they cannot bring alcohol to children sports programs is a bigger issue than finding evidence of underage drinking. An article in the local paper, the Oak Leaves, from Sept. 2, 2016, reported The Park District of Oak Park is considering a liquor license for a summer theatre program in a local park. The Park District reported it has been hard to enforce park district policy of “no alcohol in the parks” at these events and the lack of incidents related to alcohol at these events has prompted this consideration. Private parks that are less lit have been identified as a problem. According to key-informant interviews with Police and parents there is more underage drinking activity during the summer and at private parks in River Forest that are not well lit, accessible at all hours, and not used often.

Key-informant interviews with parents and youth illustrate a shared concern that higher income levels may be contributing to local underage drinking rates. These key-informant interviews report that it is common for middle to higher income families in Oak Park and River Forest to have stocked alcohol readily available and that it is common to host frequent adult parties/ social events with alcohol. Youth, in key informant interviews, observed that alcohol is a factor in having a good time. When a young person was asked “Why young people drink”, in a key-informant interview, the answer was simply “laziness”. It was reported that planning a party that is considered “cool” is harder to do without alcohol and takes a lot of work.

Much of the IYS data and qualitative data from key-informant interviews, as part of this assessment report, identify a parent culture that is divided on views of underage drinking. Some parents live by the rule that underage drinking is against the law, unhealthy, and potentially dangerous. Other parents admittedly take a “blind eye” to underage drinking. The perception from some youth and adults, in key-informant interview, is that it is normal for kids to want to drink and, for the most part, parents trust their children to “be safe” when drinking.

An article in the Sept, 2016 issue of *The Atlantic (National award winning general editorial magazine)*, “How Helicopter Parenting Can Cause Binge Drinking”, by Caitlin Flanagan, identifies what she calls “good parents” and “get real parents”, “good parents” being those that monitor their children’s activities and maintain a zero tolerance on not drinking and not using drugs. “Get real” parents are those that feel their child is going to drink alcohol whether they forbid it or not and focus their attention on “risk management”. “Get real” parents feel their children are responsible enough and smart enough to handle alcohol. These parents let their child know that if they find themselves at a party that is getting out of control they can call for a ride, no questions asked. Some are willing to host parties so that they know where their child is in these circumstances, or because they think children deserve a space to be without the legal restrictions imposed by our government on underage drinking. Local youth share in key-

informant interviews that they know parents who host underage drinking parties and parents who are willing to purchase alcohol for parties. Other comments from local youth share that a lot of parties are BYOB and these parents know they are happening but choose to look the other way.

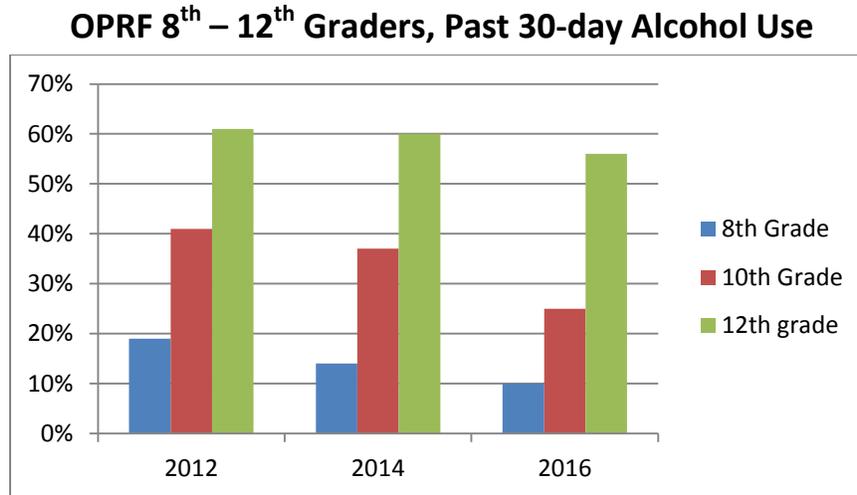
In 2010, Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) results were shared with the Citizens Council at Oak Park River Forest High School. The Council serves as a parent advisory council to the Administration and the Board of Education. Several members of the council were concerned with the alcohol and marijuana use rates from the 2010 IYS. The Citizens Council and the High School teamed up to host an Alcohol & Substance Use Forum in May of 2010. A number of parents involved with Citizens Council formed a committee that would later be known as the High School Action Committee. Kelly O'Connor, then Chairwoman of the High School Action Committee, wrote an article to the local paper, the Wednesday Journal, "Misperceptions abound on drugs at Oak Park and River Forest High School", January 4, 2011, to address misconceptions fueled by "get real" parent perceptions on underage drinking and marijuana use. The 2010 Alcohol and Substance Youth Forum marked the beginning of a grassroots coalition movement to reduce underage drinking and drug use locally. The grassroots coalition is *IMP.A.C.T. Parents And Community Together To Reduce Underage Drinking*.

C. Executive Summary

Purpose

The Purpose of this assessment is to inform a strategic planning process for implementation of evidence-based strategies that are specific to contributing factors relating to the underage drinking problem in Oak Park and River Forest. It is important to understand the clear needs of a community before beginning a strategic planning process. It is equally important that the needs assessment be led by community members with participation from key stakeholders representing as many sectors of a community as possible in order to have buy-in from the necessary sectors to develop and implement a strategic plan leading to community level change.

Key Findings from the anonymous self-reported, Illinois Youth Survey, administered to Oak Park and River Forest 8th, 10th and 12th graders in 2012, 2014, and in 2016.



Illinois Youth Survey, 2012, 2014, and 2016

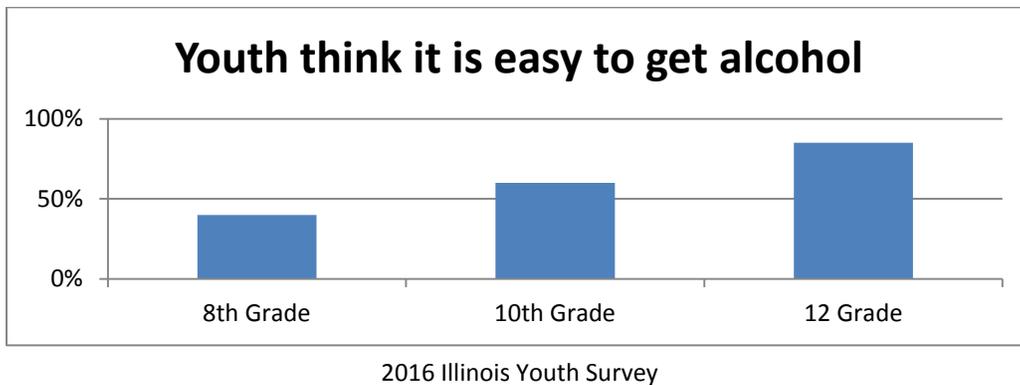
Overall, according to Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) data, underage drinking rates in Oak Park and River Forest are improving. In 2012, the past 30-day underage drinking rates for Oak Park and River Forest 8th, 10th, and 12th graders were 19%, 41%, and 61% respectively. 2016 past 30-day underage drinking rates for local 8th, 10th, and 12th graders were 10%, 25% and 56%, showing a decline of 9%, 16%, and 5% respectively from 2012-2016. However, 10th and 12th grade past 30-day underage drinking rates are 10% and 16% higher than that of the state for 2014. Also concerning is the jump in 30-day and annual underage drinking rates from 10th to 12th grade. Binge drinking rates for Oak Park and River Forest 10th and 12th graders are 4% and 10% higher, respectively, than that of the state for 2014. However, Oak Park and River Forest 10th and 12th graders are less likely to drive under the influence than their state peers.

According to the Illinois Youth Survey (2014), Oak Park and River Forest 8th graders self-report obtaining alcohol from a parent with permission at percentages higher than that of their state peers. In 2014, Oak Park and River Forest 8th and 10th graders self-report obtaining alcohol from a parent without their permission at rates higher than that at the state level. The percentages of 10th and 12th graders who are obtaining alcohol from a parent with permission have increased slightly since 2012.

In 2014, the percentage of local 8th – 12th graders who report obtaining alcohol at a retail source is higher than that of state averages. The percentage of 10th graders who report

obtaining alcohol at a retail source got worse from 2014 to 2016 and rates at which 12th graders are obtaining alcohol from a retail source is 14% higher than that of the 2014 state average.

The percentage of local 10th and 12th graders who think it is acceptable for someone their age to use alcohol and who report that most of their peers drink alcohol is higher than that of the state. Likewise, the percentage of local 10th and 12th graders who report they would be perceived as cool if they drank alcohol is also higher than the state average.



Locally, 40% of 8th graders, 60% of 10th graders, and 85% of 12th graders think it is easy for someone their age to obtain alcohol. Also reported in the IYS is that Oak Park and River Forest 12th graders are more likely to perceive that most adults in their neighborhood think it's acceptable for kids their age to drink alcohol than their state peers.

Problem Statement

30% of Oak Park River Forest 8th – 12th graders consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, at rates consistently above the state average, resulting in citations for possession of alcohol by a minor.

Identified Contributing Factors

The assessment phase of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) begins with analyzing the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) data, which Oak Park River Forest High School has voluntarily been participating with since 2008. The survey is offered every other year (even years) to 8th, 10th and 12th grades. Up until 2016, 6th grade was included. 6th grade is no longer automatically included because Illinois State 6th grade alcohol consumption rates have fallen below rates of

their peers nationally. The IYS was developed for State grant processes such as this one as an effective means for evaluating progress at local, state and national levels.

The survey separates questions into four categories of contributing factors:

- Retail Access
- Social Access
- Permissive Social Norms
- Low Perceived Risk.

Within these contributing factors are sub-factors that identify behavior or perceptions that are indicators of the contributing factors.

Contributing Factors and Sub-Factors
Retail Access
Accessibility via Retail Outlets
Social Access
Provision by Parents
Provision by Other Adults
Accessibility via Parties/ Social Events
Permissive Social Norms
Permissive Family Norms
Permissive Community Norms
Permissive Youth Norms
Low Perceived Risk
Low Perceived Risk of Harm
Low Perceived Risk of Consequences

IYS questions are designed to identify what contributing factors and sub-factors exist in a community. In order to determine priority areas of focus for a strategic plan and logic model

we analyze the results of the questions from each contributing factor by assessing whether the sub-factor is getting worse over time and if the indicator is more prevalent locally than across the state.

Data analysis by the Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development, as the multi-sector coalition using the Strategic Prevention Framework process to develop a strategic plan to reduce 30-day underage drinking rates in Oak Park and River Forest, identified the following contributing factors to underage drinking in Oak Park and River Forest; Social Access, Retail Access and Permissive Social Norms. The sub-factors that are either getting worse over time or more concerning than that of the state, and are agreed on as concerning by the coalition when considering qualitative data, consequences, and existing strategies are; 1) Provision by Parents, 2) Accessibility via Retail Outlets, 3) Permissive Youth Norms and 4) Permissive Community Norms.

Contributing Factors:

Contributing Factors Prioritization for OPRF:		
Ranking	Sub-Factor	Contributing Factor
1	Provision by Parents	Social Access
2	Accessibility via Retail Outlets	Retail Access
3	Permissive Youth Norms	Permissive Social Norms
4	Permissive Community Norms	Permissive Social Norms

Target Population

The target population to address has been identified as 8th – 12th grade in Oak Park and River Forest. The purpose of the Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success (SPF-PFS) grant process with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) is to lower 30-day use rates and negative consequences of underage drinking for 8th – 12th graders in Oak Park and River Forest. The degree to which available information for each grade is perceived as concerning varies for each grade level varies. However, local factors remain at each grade level that contribute to the 2016 30% overall 30-day underage drinking rate.

D. Methods

Process used for collecting data

Quantitative Data – Indicates how often a behavior/event occurs or to what degree it exists. Quantitative data is objective and standardized and describe the issue in numbers.

Survey data

Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) data for the State of Illinois (2012 and 2014), Oak Park and River Forest Middle Schools (2012, 2014, and 2016), and Oak Park River Forest High School (2012, 2014, and 2016) were used for this assessment report. The IYS is a self-reported survey administered in school settings and is designed to gather information about a variety of health and social indicators including substance use patterns and attitudes of Illinois youth. The IYS supplies critical information to schools and school districts throughout Illinois. It also provides a scientific estimate of health and social indicators for the State of Illinois, based on a random sample of 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in Illinois public schools. More information about the Illinois Youth Survey is available at: <http://iys/cprd/illinois.edu/>.

IYS Participation

Year	8 th Grade	10 th Grade	12 th Grade
2012	83%	80%	67%
2014	81%	84%	62%
2016	62%	85%	57%

Because Oak Park and River Forest Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) participation is more than 50% for each respective grade level, for each year, we can be confident that our Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) data is representative of our total student population. It is our goal, and the expectation of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), for Oak Park and River Forest Schools to have a minimum of 70% participation in the IYS for 2018 and 2020.

Archival data

School Archival Data (8th – 12th Grades):

Oak Park Elementary School District 97, River Forest Elementary D90, and Oak Park River Forest High School District 200 supplied demographic information, related school policy and programs, and discipline information relevant to underage drinking.

Police Archival Data:

Oak Park Police Department, Oak Park First Respondents, and the River Forest Police Department supplied consequence data including traffic crashes, DUI offenses, arrests, and deaths (aggregated by year) for youth residing in Oak Park and River Forest.

State archival data was collected from:

- The June 2015 Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking
- Illinois Secretary of State 2016 DUI Fact Book
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Drug and Alcohol Services Information Systems (DASIS)

The OPRF Workgroup for Positive Youth Development (SPF coalition) worked to identify gaps in interpreting and/or confirming quantitative data (survey and archival data). As gaps in understanding were identified, the coalition and sub-committees helped to identify individuals and groups to interview for better understanding and specific information, key-informant interviews and focus groups. Key-informant interviews and focus groups are examples of qualitative data.

Qualitative Data – Explains why people behave or feel the way they do. Qualitative data is subjective and explanatory and describes the issues in words.

Key informant interviews

The Program Coordinator held 40 key-informant interviews with community members and stakeholders working or residing in Oak Park or River Forest:

- Youth
- Parents
- Teachers and support staff
- School Administrators
- School Social Workers
- Substance Use Treatment Professionals
- Police
- First respondents
- Community members
- Faith-based leaders
- Government partners

E. Assessment Results

1) Consumption Patterns and Consequences

Oak Park River Forest, 8th – 12th Grade, Past 30-day Alcohol Use

	Past 30-Day Use					
	Local				State	
	2012	2014	2016	% Change	2014	% Difference
8th Grade	19%	14%	10%	-9%	15%	-1%
10th Grade	41%	37%	25%	-16%	27%	10%
12th Grade	61%	60%	56%	-5%	44%	16%
OVERALL	40%	37%	30%	-10%	29%	8%
Jump from 8th to 10th	22%	23%	15%			
Jump from 10th to 12th	20%	23%	31%			

Illinois Youth Survey Data, Oak Park River Forest (2012, 2014, and 2016)

Oak Park River Forest 2016 IYS data identifies declining local 30-day underage drinking rates. 12th grade 30-day underage drinking rates remain considerably higher than that of the state. Locally, 2014 30-day underage drinking rates are 8% higher than that of the state, with a significant jump from 10th – 12th grade.

Oak Park River Forest, 8th – 12th Grade, Past Year (Annual) Alcohol Use

	Past Year (Annual) Use					
	Local				State	
	2012	2014	2016	% Change	2014	% Difference
8th Grade	34%	27%	22%	-12%	27%	0%
10th Grade	60%	58%	45%	-15%	47%	11%
12th Grade	76%	75%	72%	-4%	63%	12%
OVERALL	57%	53%	46%	-10%	46%	8%
Jump from 8th to 10th	26%	31%	23%			
Jump from 10th to 12th	16%	17%	27%			

Illinois Youth Survey Data, Oak Park River Forest (2012, 2014, and 2016)

Oak Park River Forest 2016 IYS data identifies similar trends of declining percentages of local 8th – 12th grade past year use. However, 2014 12th grade past year use is still 12% higher than that of their state peers.

Oak Park River Forest, 8th – 12th Grade, Binge Dinking

	Binge Drinking					
	(5 or more drinks in a row within the past two weeks - 1 or more times)					
	Local				State	
	2012	2014	2016	% Change	2014	% Difference
8th Grade	7%	5%	1%	-6%	6%	-1%
10th Grade	20%	15%	10%	-10%	11%	4%
12th Grade	38%	36%	33%	-5%	26%	10%
OVERALL	22%	19%	15%	-7%	14%	4%
Jump from 8th to 10th	13%	10%	9%			
Jump from 10th to 12th	18%	21%	23%			

Illinois Youth Survey Data, Oak Park River Forest (2012, 2014, and 2016)

2014 IYS data reports Oak Park River Forest 12th graders are binge drinking at rates higher than that of their state peers.

Consequences

Oak Park and River Forest

Indicator	Source	2014	2015	Change
Hospitalizations (Emergency Room Visits): Number of emergency room visits due to alcohol poisoning	Oak Park First Respondents	11	6	-5
Arrests: Number of citations for possession of alcohol by a minor	Oak Park & River Forest Police	5	16	11

Local consequence data shows an increase in citations for possession of alcohol by a minor with a decrease in recorded hospitalization visits. 2016 data is not available, however early reporting from Police shows a decline in citations for possession of alcohol by a minor.

Key Informant Interviews

Key-informant interviews with police, youth and parents report “the word is out”. “We (youth) have heard about the parties that got busted when they happened”, key-informant interview with a youth. “Parties are now smaller (approximately 30 people), with friends you can trust, and for the most part everyone behaves so the police don’t get called.”

Social Hosting

River Forest passed a local social hosting law in April of 2011. Oak Park followed suit in June of 2012.

Oak Park and River Forest Social Hosting violations:

Indicator:	2012	2013	2014	2015
Social Hosting	1	10	27	7

It is the perception of parents and youth interviewed that 2014 Social hosting violations contributed to smaller parties that are now harder for police to identify.

The Oak Park Social Hosting Law is:

A. It is unlawful for any person to host an event or gathering when the host knows or should reasonably know that an underage person:

1. Is consuming or will consume any alcoholic beverage or illicit drugs; or
2. Possesses any alcoholic beverage or illicit drug with the intent to consume it; and
3. The host fails or has failed to take reasonable steps to prevent possession or consumption by the underage person.

B. It is also unlawful for any person to fail to take reasonable steps to prevent possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs by an underage person at an event or gathering held at his or her residence or premises. (Ord. 2012-0-28, 6-4-2012)

The River Forest Social Hosting Law is written very similarly.

Key Informant Interviews

Key-informant interviews of youth and parents state that parents are more diligent about knowing where their children are, who they are with, and what they are doing, up until 11th grade. The perception shared in key-informant interviews was that by 11th grade parents feel their child deserves some privacy and has earned trust. Parents share that they are grasping

the reality that soon their child will be at college and they, as parents, will not be able to monitor their daily activities. Parents shared in key-informant interviews that they are often aware when their child is going to an underage drinking party but they choose not to address it, and instead they teach skills for being safe such as “call if you need a ride”, “leave a party if it is getting out of hand”, “never leave a friend”, etc.

2) **Contributing Factors** priorities to address in a strategic plan to reduce 30-day underage drinking rates and negative consequences, identified by the Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development by individual vote and group consensus on June 6, 2016.

Social Access: Provision by Parents

Social Access	Provision by Parents			
	Indicator 1: Parents of youth who report obtaining alcohol from parents, <i>with</i> their permission			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8 th grade	48%	42%	44%	39%
10 th grade	30%	27%	31%	35%
12 th grade	37%	28%	39%	33%
OVERALL	38%	32%	38%	35%

Locally, the percentage of 8th graders who report obtaining alcohol from a parent, *with* their permission, has consistently been higher than that of their state peers. This is a sub-factor that got worse locally for 10th and 12th graders from 2012 – 2016.

Social Access	Provision By Parents			
	Indicator 2: Parents of youth who report obtaining alcohol from parents, <i>without</i> their permission			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8 th grade	53%	28%	10%	25%
10 th grade	43%	33%	32%	28%
12 th grade	39%	26%	30%	26%
OVERALL	45%	29%	24%	26%

Locally, the percentage of 8th graders who report obtaining alcohol from a parent, *without* their permission has improved. However, 12th grade percentages have gotten worse from 2014 – 2016 and in 2014 10th grade percentages have consistently been higher than that of their state peers.

Retail Access

Retail Access	Accessibility via Retail Outlets				
	Indicator 1: Percent of youth who report obtaining alcohol from any retail source				
	Local			State	
	2012	2014	2016	2014	% Difference
8 th grade	6%	6%	0%	5%	1%
10 th grade	15%	9%	11%	8%	1%
12 th grade	44%	27%	25%	13%	14%
OVERALL	22%	14%	12%	9%	5%

Retail Access: Accessibility via Retail Outlets

Locally, more 10th and 12th graders report obtaining alcohol from a retail source than their state peers, as reported in the 2014 IYS. Oak Park River Forest 12th graders are obtaining alcohol from a retail source at a rate 14% higher than that of the state.

Key Informant Interviews

Youth report retail outlets exist outside of Oak Park and River Forest that are less likely to card. One set of key-informant interviews reported that it is easy to find an older sibling willing to purchase alcohol for underage drinkers. Fake ID's are also more common amongst 12th graders, according to one key-informant interview.

Key-informant interviews with Police and Local Liquor Commissioners suggest it is important to not underestimate the possibility that youth could be obtaining alcohol from retail outlets within our borders. Oak Park Police conduct compliance checks in collaboration with the Illinois Liquor Commission. In 2015, 9 out of 22 participating licensees failed compliance checks for serving alcohol to a young person under the age of 21.

Permissive Social Norms: Permissive Youth Norms

Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Youth Norms			
	Indicator 1: Percent of youth who think it's acceptable for someone their age to use alcohol			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8th grade	18%	13%	10%	15%
10th grade	42%	43%	36%	34%
12th grade	68%	67%	64%	51%
OVERALL	43%	41%	37%	33%

Locally, the percentage of 10th and 12th graders who think it is acceptable for someone their age to use alcohol remains significantly higher than that of the state norm, according to the 2014 IYS.

Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Youth Norms			
	Indicator 1: Percent of youth who report that most of their peers used alcohol in the past 30 days			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
10 th grade	68%	61%	54%	59%
12 th grade	72%	69%	65%	68%
OVERALL	70%	65%	60%	64%

The percentage of Oak Park and River Forest 10th and 12th graders who report that most of their peers used alcohol in the past 30 days is higher than that of their state peers, according to the 2014 IYS.

Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Youth Norms			
	Indicator 1: Percent of youth who report that they would be perceived as cool if they used alcohol			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8 th grade	30%	24%	19%	24%
10 th grade	56%	49%	45%	44%
12 th grade	58%	50%	56%	45%
OVERALL	48%	41%	40%	38%

Oak Park and River Forest 10th and 12th graders report that they would be perceived as cool if they used alcohol more so than their state peers, according to the 2014 IYS.

Key informant interviews

Youth reported in key-informant interviews that most value not being judgmental but admit it can be uncomfortable to not be drinking when the majority is. The opinion was shared that it does look cool to be drinking.

Permissive Social Norms: Permissive Community Norms

Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Community Norms			
	Indicator: Percentage of youth who perceive that most adults in their neighborhood think it's acceptable for kids their age to use alcohol			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8th grade	17%	11%	9%	19%
10th grade	25%	24%	24%	30%
12th grade	53%	48%	45%	44%
OVERALL	32%	28%	26%	31%

The percentage of Oak Park River Forest 12th graders who perceive most adults in their neighborhood think it is acceptable for kids their age to use alcohol is consistently above state norms, according to the 2014 IYS.

Key informant interviews

Youth interviews report that adults send a message that underage drinking is acceptable when they give advice to “be safe” or “don’t post anything on Facebook that would get you in trouble” rather than having conversations about the importance to not participate in underage drinking.

A pattern was noticed by the interviewer that among adults that were interviewed who live in Oak Park or River Forest, versus adults who commute from another suburb and work in

Oak Park or River Forest, the adults who commute were more likely to feel the underage drinking problem is excessive than adults who live in Oak Park or River Forest.

Permissive Social Norms: Permissive Community Norms

Social Access	Permissive Community Norms			
	Indicator: Percentages of youth who think it is easy for someone their age to obtain alcohol			
	Local			State
	2012	2014	2016	2014
8th grade	47%	45%	40%	35%
10th grade	71%	70%	60%	56%
12th grade	86%	83%	85%	72%
OVERALL	68%	66%	62%	54%

Locally, a clear majority of youth believe it would be easy to get alcohol if they wanted to. All rates are higher than that of the state 2014 percentages.

F. Conclusion

30% of Oak Park River Forest 8th – 12th graders have consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, at rates consistently above that of the state average, resulting in citations for possession of alcohol by a minor. It is the intention of the OPRF Workgroup for Positive Youth Development to develop a strategic plan and logic model to address the contributing factors and sub-factors, identified through this assessment report, to reduce 30-day alcohol use rates and negative consequences of underage drinking for 8th – 12th graders in Oak Park and River Forest. The following contributing factors and sub-factors were identified for a strategic planning process through analyzing the consumption patterns, contributing factors indicators, archival data, consequence data, existing strategies, and key-informant interviews as a multi-sector coalition:

Contributing Factor	Sub-Factor
Social Access	Provision by Parents
Retail Access	Accessibility via retail outlets
Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Youth Norms
Permissive Social Norms	Permissive Community Norms

Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development Vision

Support youth in Oak Park and River Forest to be healthy and alcohol free.

Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development Mission

The Oak Park River Forest Workgroup for Positive Youth Development brings the community together to identify and implement prevention strategies that support youth in making healthy choices to be alcohol free.

The Workgroup for Positive Youth Development will begin work on the strategic plan and logic model for implementation upon the approval of this report by the Illinois Department of Human Services.