

# Providence Looking For Solutions To Underage Drinking

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{audio}/images/stories/mp3/underage\_drinking\_13\_may.mp3{/audio}

Casey Kelly/KMXT

Underage drinking is a problem facing many Alaskacommunities, especially in rural parts of the state.

Ken McCarty is director of Kodiak's Providence Safe Harbor office.

(Underage Drinking 1 :06s "is they're bored.")

Safe Harbor is sponsoring a town hall meeting Wednesday to discuss the issue with parents and educators. Titled "Lets Start Talking Before They Start Drinking," McCarty says the town hall meetings are part of a nationwide effort to increase understanding and awareness of underage drinking and its consequences.

(Underage Drinking 2 :27s "outcomes for our kids.")

McCarty says in the past most of the focus has been on treatment and recovery, but that's starting to change more toward prevention.

(Underage Drinking 3 :23s "prevention here in Kodiak.")

He says he's really hoping that parents will show up to brainstorm possible solutions and share some of their own experiences.

(Underage Drinking 4 :19s "to raise our kids.")

Wednesday's town hall meeting, "Let's Start Talking Before They Start Drinking," will take place at the Kodiak High School commons, starting at 7 p.m.

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