

Established in 1992, the Buffalo County Partnership Council is committed to:

- ◆ **Countywide Prevention Efforts** that build awareness of methods of positive youth and family development.
- ◆ **Community Education Programs** that aim to reduce risk behaviors among young people, parents, and other community members.
- ◆ **Networking & Resource Sharing** that ensures that schools, county departments, and community organizations are working together to address local needs.
- ◆ **Professional Development** for members in order to continue to provide the most effective programming based on current research and best practices.



The unique youth—adult partnership developed between local students and county agencies has always been both a strength and a value of the Partnership Council.

<http://buffalo.uwex.edu/bcpc>

Partnership Council Members

Adam Accola, Chairperson
Mondovi Public Schools

Annie Lisowski, Vice Chair
Buffalo County UW-Extension

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Positive Alternatives – Teen Court
Jamie Lawrence-Olson



“A Council dedicated to finding ways to enhance positive youth and family development in our Buffalo County communities.”



Senior Day is an opportunity for graduating students to think critically about potential risk behaviors from local speakers.

The Buffalo County Partnership Council utilizes national, state, and local data, like results from recent Youth Risk Behavior Surveys and Community Perceptions Surveys, as well as county needs assessments to establish goals and objectives. Currently, the Partnership Council develops and facilitates programming that aims to address:

- ◆ Underage Drinking
- ◆ Youth Substance Use
- ◆ Bullying
- ◆ Teen Dating Violence
- ◆ Community Acceptance of Alcohol

"We are fortunate for the resources that this Partnership brings to the community in order to enhance the safety of our citizens."

Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht

Buffalo County Partnership Council's current programming includes:

- ◆ **Senior Day** is an opportunity for graduating students across Buffalo County to learn about potential risks and how to avoid them before entering the 'real world'.
- ◆ **Sixth Grade Day** is a program that aims to engage sixth graders in thinking critically about their personal behaviors and how they impact others.



At Sixth Grade Day, students are engaged by the SOS Players, teen actors that educate youth about making safe life choices.

- ◆ **Town Hall Meetings** bring together parents, students and community agencies ready to address alcohol use in Buffalo County.
- ◆ **Parents Who Host Lose the Most** is a campaign to educate parents about the health and safety risks of serving alcohol at teen parties.
- ◆ **Alcohol Compliance Checks**, conducted by the Substance Abuse Task Force, a committee of the Partnership Council, help to increase awareness of and compliance with underage drinking laws.

"It has allowed us to be more active in our county and connects schools with each other and provided opportunities to work with Buffalo County departments and unite communities."

**Erin Davis,
Cheyenne Gray**

Future directions of the Council will continue to address growing needs of youth and families. Plans for upcoming programming include increasing factors which lead to community readiness in addressing problems with

alcohol and illicit drug use and developing an educational awareness event targeted at preventing middle school students from engaging in risk behaviors unique to them.



At a Town Hall Meeting on Alcohol's Impact on our Buffalo County Community, Mike McGowan, a renowned motivational speaker, sparked candid conversation about underage drinking and its widespread effects in our communities.