



Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane • Rockville, MD 20857
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)



April 29, 2021

The Honorable Kay Ivey
Governor of Alabama
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-2751

Dear Governor Ivey:

As Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, and Chair of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking (ICCPUD), I would like to thank Alabama for participating in the annual surveys of state-supported underage drinking enforcement and prevention programs between 2011 and 2020. These surveys were conducted in accordance with the Sober Truth on Preventing (STOP) Underage Drinking Act (Pub. L. 109-422), which was enacted by Congress in 2006 and reauthorized in December 2016 (Pub. L. 114-255).

The surveys, completed by all 50 states and the District of Columbia, provide the data for a comprehensive set of Annual Reports on each state's underage drinking prevention activities, policies, enforcement efforts, and expenditures: The summarized survey data can be found in the *State Performance & Best Practices for the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking Report*. Individual *State Reports* include each state's survey responses and underage drinking policies. The *Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking* includes national data on underage drinking patterns, the federally coordinated approach on underage drinking prevention, and information on the National Media Campaign—"Talk. They Hear You." These documents are available at stopalcoholabuse.gov.

As called for in the STOP Act, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is requesting that states complete another survey in 2021 for the 2022 Annual Reports. Last year, the individual identified as responsible for coordinating your state's response to the STOP Act survey was:

Beverly Johnson
Director, Prevention Services; Coordinator, SPF-SIG
Division of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Alabama Dept. of Mental Health

SAMHSA will send the 2021 survey to this individual unless you designate another state contact. If you wish to select someone else, please contact Robert Vincent at robert.vincent@samhsa.hhs.gov no later than 3 weeks from the date of this letter. A sample of the 2021 survey is enclosed for your review.

In addition to the survey, the STOP Act calls for strengthening collaboration among communities, the federal, state, and other governments to prevent underage drinking. To fulfill this mandate, the ICCPUD hosts Community Engagement online discussions. These discussions will provide a platform to solicit input from all stakeholders, including representatives from state governments. SAMHSA will contact your office with the schedule for these online discussions.

Thank you again for Alabama's help with this critical initiative. Together we can prevent and reduce underage drinking and improve the health of our nation's youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Coderre". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and "C".

Tom Coderre
Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health
and Substance Use

Enclosure