Evaluation of the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program

The Department of Public Health Sciences at Wake Forest University School of Medicine (WFUSM) conducted the National Evaluation of the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program. The evaluation was designed to provide timely, scientifically sound evidence on the process and impact of this program.

Goals of the Evaluation

- Determine what state and local programmatic activities are being supported by the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program
- Evaluate the impact of the program in a sample of communities

Summary of Evaluation Design

The National Evaluation includes four primary data collection efforts:

**Key Actor Survey:** This is a telephone survey of four key actors in each state's underage drinking initiative focusing on how states are implementing the EUDL program, what agencies and groups are involved, types of strategies being used to reduce underage drinking, and perceptions of successes and barriers to implementing the program.

**Local Project Director Survey:** This is a telephone survey of directors of local projects that received funding from EUDL Block or Discretionary grants. The survey includes questions about the program and activities being implemented at the local level in the EUDL program, including the type of program being implemented, the target of the program, the intensity and reach of the program, characteristics of the lead agency, involvement of other agencies and sectors, and use of technical assistance resources.

**Law Enforcement Agency Survey:** This is a telephone survey of law enforcement agencies in a sample of communities in states receiving discretionary grants. The sample includes communities that received EUDL funding and matched comparison communities. The survey focuses on what enforcement efforts are taking place, perceived barriers to enforcement, and perceptions about community interest in underage drinking enforcement.

**Youth Survey:** This is a telephone survey of youth, ages 16 to 20, in the same sample of communities mentioned above. This survey focuses on the perceived availability of alcohol to youth, sources of alcohol, underage alcohol use, and problems related to underage alcohol use.

During the evaluation of the EUDL program, there were three rounds of data collection, with three years of data collection in each round. Round 1 data collection was conducted in 1999, 2000 and 2001 (the data collected in 1999 is used as baseline). Round 2 data collection was conducted in 2000, 2001 and 2002; and, Round 4 was conducted in 2002, 2003 and 2004. (Round 3 of the EUDL program was not evaluated.) The Key Actor Survey, Law Enforcement Agency Survey, and Youth Survey were conducted each year during all three rounds of data collection (making a total of nine points of data collection for each survey). The Local Project Director Survey (LPDS) was conducted in Round 1 and Round 2 block grant and discretionary grant communities in 2001, and it was conducted in Round 4 discretionary grant communities in 2003. Data collection for all four surveys was done in 2004.
In addition to these four ongoing components of the evaluation, in-depth case studies of program implementation in 6 states (CT, MI, MS, NM, VA, and WA) were conducted in 1999 and 2000, and case studies of the implementation of best or most promising practices for reducing underage alcohol use within the EUDL program were conducted in 2001.