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Community perceptions on substance abuse by underage

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Abstract

In the spring of 2015, the Community Awareness and Prevention Association (C.A.P.A.), and westshore young leaders network (WYLN) developed and conducted a Community Perception Survey (CPS) of adult residents in the suburbs of Lakewood, Rocky River, Fairview Park, Bay Village, Westlake, and North Olmsted. The purpose of the survey was to assess attitudes and opinions about substance abuse and prevention efforts of WYLN. The survey was both anonymous and confidential. The CPS resulted in 955 usable data which were analyzed and visualized at CSU. The results showed a strong perception of alcohol abuse and accessibility to alcohol for teens by other parents. Women were more likely to perceive greater access and abuse of alcohol by teens than men, and men were more permissive with the use of alcohol by teenagers. Parents with children from grade 9 up to college were also more likely to perceive alcohol as a greater threat and were more involved/aware of community preventive efforts.