Understanding a
SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE

What is it?

A Social Host Ordinance would hold individuals (social hosts) criminally responsible for hosting or allowing a party, on public or private property, where persons under the age of 21 possess or consume alcohol, regardless of who supplied the alcohol to minors.

Violators of this ordinance would be charged with a misdemeanor.

Did you know?

- Individuals cannot be charged if they did not know about an underage drinking party.

- Parents cannot be charged for allowing or permitting alcohol use by their own child while present in their own household.

- This does not apply to legally protected religious observances.

- Individuals cannot be charged if they take steps to prevent the underage drinking once they realize it is occurring.

A look at the Numbers

90% of community adults disapprove of high school youth drinking alcohol.[1]

OVER **100** towns and cities in MN have already adopted social hosts ordinances.

26 counties in MN have adopted a social host ordinance.

46% of Mille Lacs county 11th grade students who reported consuming alcohol in the past 30 days said they obtained the alcohol from parties.[2]

MN youth who drink alcohol monthly or more often are at least **6 times** more likely to have ever used marijuana or abused prescription drugs not prescribed to them.[3]

85% of community adults are concerned about the harm from underage drinking.[1]

100% of local law enforcement officers agree their communities should adopt a social host ordinance.[4]

A Social Host Ordinance will help the **many youth who don't drink** feel supported in their choice <u>NOT</u> to.

Mille Lacs Area Partners for Prevention

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