

REDUCE ALCOHOL ACCESS TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIME

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 47% of homicides were attributable to alcohol use (prior to the pandemic). Excessive alcohol use plays a large role in violent crime. The CityHealth report states communities with greater alcohol outlet density have more homicides, aggravated assaults and sexual assaults.

Use policy and regulation to create a healthier, safer community.

Source: CityHealth, an initiative of the de Beaumont Foundation and Kaiser Permanente, released a report in 2021, Preventing Violence in American Cities with Safer Alcohol Sales: Tools Cities Can Use to Address Increasing Alcohol Use and Violence Since the Onset of COVID-19

Adopt Alcohol Policies

Reducing the number of alcohol outlets reduces harm to your community. Municipalities can improve their health by implementing ordinances such as alcohol outlet density, advertising restrictions, requiring more sales revenue from food than alcohol, and levying a nuisance abatement fee on alcohol outlets to pay for enforcement.

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Require Training

Illinois requires all on-premise alcohol outlets to have BASSET-trained employees (servers, bartenders, and security staff). However, communities can adopt an ordinance requiring off-premise staff to be BASSET trained as well. According to the NLLEA, more significant harms are associated with off-premise sales, including violence, robberies, assaults, child abuse, and domestic violence.

Commit to Health Equity

Low-income communities and communities of color historically have a higher alcohol outlet density—the greater the density, the greater the harm. Allow communities to raise their voices to restrict the number of alcohol outlets. Engage communities on neighborhood investments for a healthier future.