



Leaders at the Core of Better Communities

2010 Annual Awards Program

Program Excellence Awards Nomination Form

Deadline for Nominations: March 12, 2010

Complete this form (sections 1 and 2) and submit with your descriptive narrative.

SECTION 1: Information About the Nominated Program

Program Excellence Award Category (*select only one*):

- ☐ Community Health and Safety
- ☒ Community Partnership
- ☐ Community Sustainability
- ☐ Strategic Leadership and Governance

Name of program being nominated: Warrensburg WAPIP Alcohol Management Program

Jurisdiction(s) where program originated: Warrensburg, Missouri

Jurisdiction population(s): 19,034

Please indicate the month and year in which the program you are nominating was fully implemented. (Note: All Program Excellence Award nominations must have been fully implemented by or before January 31, 2009, to be eligible. The start date should not include the initial planning phase.)

Month: August Year: 2008

Name(s) and title(s) of individual(s) who should receive recognition for this award at the ICMA Annual Conference in San José, California, October 2010. (Each individual listed MUST be an ICMA member to be recognized.):

Name: J. Jeff Hancock, ICMA-CM

Title: City Manager Jurisdiction: City of Warrensburg

Name: _____

Title: _____ Jurisdiction: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Jurisdiction: _____

SECTION 2: Information About the Nominator/Primary Contact

Name of contact: J. Jeff Hancock, ICMA-CM

Title: City Manager

Jurisdiction: City of Warrensburg

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City: Warrensburg

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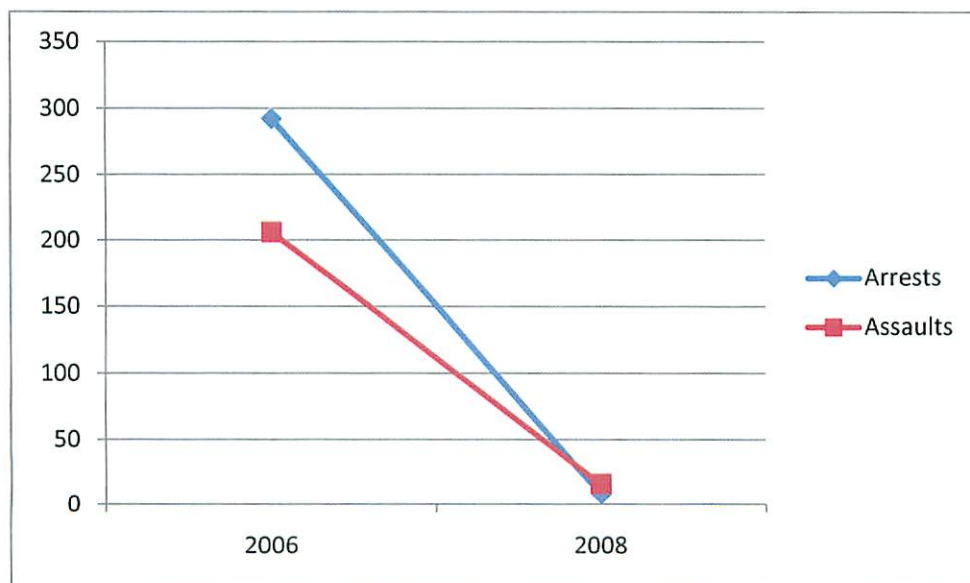
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Warrensburg WAPIP Alcohol Management Program

From 1998 to 2006 liquor arrests in the City of Warrensburg's downtown district increased by 89%, from 155 annual arrests to 293. Assault/fight/disturbance calls for the same period and area increased by 223%, from 64 to 207. In response to the increased crime and violence, in 2007 the City of Warrensburg collaborated with the University of Central Missouri to establish the Warrensburg Area Partners in Prevention (WAPIP) Alcohol Management Program.

This program brought together University of Central Missouri, City Staff, local liquor license holders, state agencies, and Whiteman Air Force Base leadership to collaborate in addressing the two objectives of the program: 1) reduce the number of alcohol-related crimes and 2) ensure the public's safety and health. The City and WAPIP utilizes five strategies of ordinance revision, training, prevention efforts, increased enforcement, and system changes.

Since implementing the City of Warrensburg and WAPIP's alcohol management program, the City of Warrensburg's downtown district liquor arrests have been reduced from 293 in 2006 to nine in 2008, a 97% decrease. Assault/fight/disturbances calls have been reduced by 92%, from 207 to 17. Compared to the state alcohol compliance check rate of 61% for liquor license holders, the City of Warrensburg since April 2009 has consistently achieved 100% compliance rate of their license holders.



Warrensburg WAPIP Alcohol Management Program

The Warrensburg Area Partners in Prevention (WAPIP) Alcohol Management Program was established in 2007 as a result of increasing alcohol related concerns in the City. The two objectives of the project were 1) reduce the number of alcohol-related crimes and 2) ensure the public's safety and health.

WHY WAS THE PROJECT NEEDED?

In February 2007 the City of Warrensburg experienced an alcohol related incident requiring an all-call to area law enforcement agencies and resulting in five arrests and the hospitalization of two police officers. In October 2007 a riot occurred in the entertainment district during the University of Central Missouri homecoming week, resulting in injury to four police officers.

These two incidents served as the tipping point for the City; from 1998 to 2006 liquor law arrests in the City of Warrensburg downtown entertainment district had increased by 89%, from 155 arrests to 293. During the same time period and area, assault/fight/disturbances increased by 223%, from 64 to 207.

HOW WAS THE PUBLIC INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

After the homecoming riot in October 2007 the City issued a press release indicating intention to collaborate with the University of Central Missouri (UCM) to coordinate efforts to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future. The public was invited to attend a public meeting on November 1, 2007, during which the structure for WAPIP was introduced. The public was invited to join one of five WAPIP sub-committees: a Responsible Hospitality Council, a Law Enforcement Training and best practices resources committee, a Safe Neighborhood committee, a Communications committee and an Assessment committee.

WAPIP hosted monthly meetings to develop and implement their strategic plan through the five subcommittees. Community partners included local liquor license holders, former City Council Members, the Chamber of Commerce, the Warrensburg City Manager, Warrensburg Police, Warrensburg Main Street, Inc., Budweiser Community Distributor, Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri Alcohol and Tobacco Control, and University of Central Missouri staff and students.

WHAT COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WERE INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

The City of Warrensburg and WAPIP Alcohol Management Program utilized a collaborative process to implement 5 strategies: ordinance revision, training, prevention efforts, increased enforcement, and system changes. Many initiatives were undertaken in each area; examples of each are below.

Ordinance Revision:

- Adjusted age requirement for entrance to liquor establishments from age 19 to age 21. Accomplished by data from the University on the negative impact of alcohol abuse by minors.
- Simplified the caterer licensing process to clarify how catering events must be separated from regular operations in order to prevent abuses. This was accomplished by discussions with business owners about tools they needed in order to be able to conduct business profitably and in compliance with the law.
- Raised the level of sound that restaurant bars are not to exceed between 11:00 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. from 70 decibels to 90 decibels. This was a result of meetings between the City Police Department and UCM Professors and by research by UCM students regarding an appropriate sound level.

Training:

- Server training for liquor license holders and their employees.
- Crowd control training with Warrensburg Police, UCM Police, the Johnson County Sheriff's Department and Missouri Highway Patrol.
- House Party Training by City Attorney for Warrensburg Police and UCM Police.

Prevention Efforts:

- Development of a "House Party Guide", a tool to teach potential party hosts about applicable local ordinances and state and federal laws. This guide was developed by UCM students and staff and the Warrensburg Police.
- After Dark Walk. Key community leaders from city, university and Air Force Base were invited to tour the Warrensburg entertainment district during typical socializing hours to experience the environment first hand.
- Police visits to parties. As police learned of plans for upcoming private parties they would approach the residents before the party to give them a House Party Guide and talk with them about their plan for a safe and legal party.

Increased Enforcement:

- Alcohol Compliance Officer Position created in City Police Department.
- Underage Compliance checks in local businesses conducted in partnership with UCM police.
- DWI Saturations conducted in collaboration with Missouri Highway Patrol and UCM Police

System Changes:

- Intergovernmental agreement with the county and county prosecutor that permits the county prosecutor to handle city suspensions and revocations of liquor licenses.
- Appointment of new municipal judge by City
- Liquor license application information made available on the city's web page to assist businesses in making license applications.

WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF THE PROJECT?

Since implementing the alcohol management program, the City of Warrensburg entertainment district liquor arrests have been reduced from 293 in 2006 to nine in 2008, a

97% decrease. Assault/fight/disturbance calls have been reduced by 92%, from 207 to 17. In addition, UCM student survey data shows significant decreases in underage drinking, binge drinking (5 or more in a sitting), driving after consuming alcohol, and decrease in injury due to alcohol use.

A secondary result of the project is the opportunity that WAPIP has had to assist other communities in replicating this model. In April 2009 WAPIP leaders served as keynote speakers at a session at the Meeting of the Minds, a four state regional alcohol prevention conference. At this same conference WAPIP received an "Excellence in Prevention" award, the first time this award had been presented to a coalition.

HOW WAS PROJECT FINANCED?

This project was financed by reallocation of current City resources, and by state and federal grants awarded to the University of Central Missouri. The sustainability of the project has been ensured by limiting utilization of grant funds to activities that lend themselves to one time costs, therefore reducing the reliance of WAPIP on external funding.

HOW WERE SUCCESSES MEASURED?

Crime statistics were analyzed to generate data. UCM student survey data was collected through an anonymous survey given to random sample of 5% of the total student population.

WHAT OBSTACLES WERE OVERCOME?

The primary obstacle was the need to move from antagonistic relationships (i.e. police vs. bar owners) to a collaborative and symbiotic relationship. This was achieved by many individual meetings, small and large group meetings, press releases recognizing the efforts of all parties, and purposefully ensuring that all parties were engaged in the decision making process.

WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PLANS FOR THE PROJECT?

WAPIP has applied for a U.S. Department of Justice grant to expand the WAPIP model to the nearby Knob Noster and Whiteman Air Force Base Communities. WAPIP members are committed to maintaining the success that has been achieved through the collaborative effort, and continues to meet on a regular basis.

CAN THIS PROJECT BE REPLICATED IN OTHER CITIES?

Yes. The five strategies can be replicated in any size of town or city and adapted to any size budget. Many free training and technical assistance resources exist, and WAPIP is happy to share information as requested.

WHAT MAKES THE PROJECT INNOVATIVE?

This project was possible because the City, University, business community and the public reallocated resources worked together to collaboratively solve a common issue.