

Common Sense Guide to Responsible Hospitality



Social or Individual Hosts



A responsible host can keep a party or social event enjoyable while creating a safe and healthy and fun place to be by asserting some good strategies to help control the environment when alcohol is served.

Suggestions for responsible hospitality

- Avoid making alcohol beverage consumption the focus of the party. (ex: have a party theme, with fun activities that do not involve alcohol)
- Be aware of social host liabilities, some states hold the host liable for actions of an intoxicated guest.
- Designate an individual to be responsible for serving alcohol and promote recognition of serving size and alcohol content to reduce risk (ex. use smaller glasses).
- Prohibit the sale or service of alcohol beverage to underage persons (under the age of 21).
- Develop policies and practices that discourage the service of alcohol beverages to impaired adults and prohibit the service of alcohol to intoxicated persons.
- Monitor guest's consumption of alcohol beverages.
- Make alcohol free beverages available whenever alcohol beverages are served.
- Provide food in waves to encourage consumption of high protein, low salt foods that that slow the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream.
- Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the end of the party, and provide alcohol free beverages with food, such as, deserts.
- Use servers of legal drinking age (21) to serve alcohol beverages.
- Involve underage guests in alternative activities when they attend the party.
- Arrange alternative transportation and/or lodging for guests who may become alcohol impaired.