GETTING AHEAD OF A PROBLEM

Underage alcohol use can start early—even as young as age 9. Prevention efforts need to start just as early. Here’s why:

In 2020, nearly 2 million 12- to 17-year-olds (approximately 40 percent) used alcohol for the first time.*

Despite what parents may think, children really hear their concerns when it comes to using substances, and it’s important to discuss the risks of using alcohol and other drugs with them at every opportunity.

Informed, prepared parents/guardians and communities have the best chance of getting ahead of underage drinking and other substance misuse.

LEARN MORE AT StopAlcoholAbuse.gov/CommunitiesTalk

*Numbers from the Detailed Tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number.