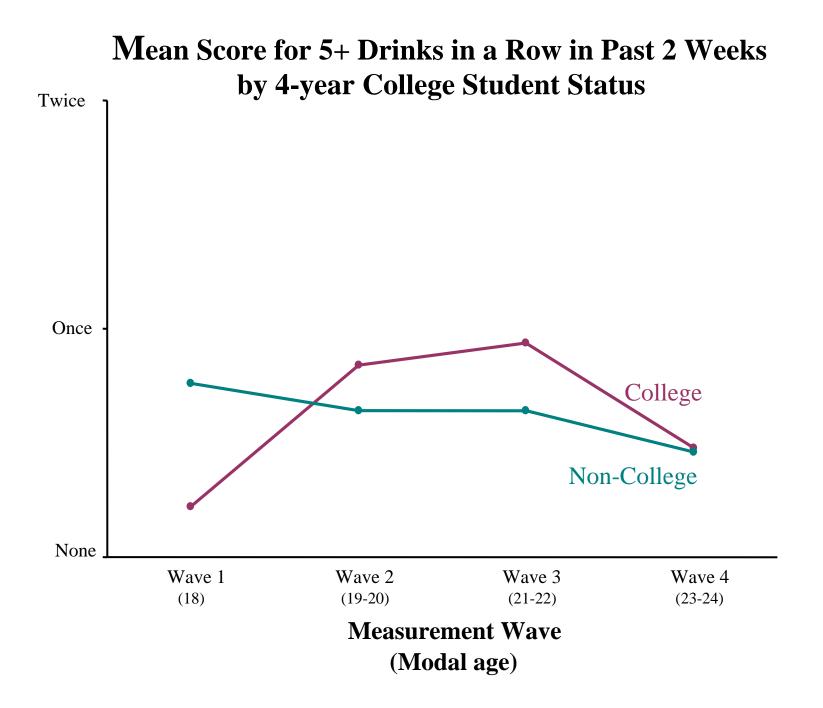
A Call to Action: Changing the Culture of Drinking at U.S. Colleges

**Recommendations for Colleges and Universities** 

### "I'm in my prime drinking years, and I intend to take full advantage of it!"

- College student, after a few drinks at a wedding



**Excessive Drinking During College** as a "Developmental Disturbance"

Developmental disturbance features:

- Time-limited deviance
- Unpredictable in advance based on individual risk factors
- Not predictive of future functioning (if you are lucky)

# The 3-in-1 Framework

- 1. Individuals, Including At-Risk or Alcohol-Dependent Drinkers
- 2. Student Body as a Whole
- 3. College and the Surrounding Community

# Human Ecology Approach

- Individual embedded in social context
- To change behavior, best bet is to intervene at both individual and context level
- Demand and supply

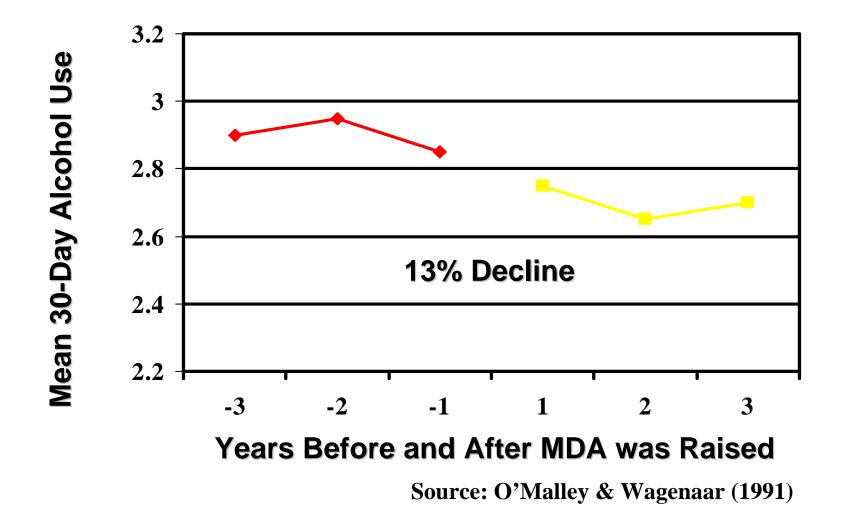
# Tier 2

# Evidence of Success With General Populations That Could Be Applied to College Environments

# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

### (1) Increased enforcement of minimum drinking age laws

#### Alcohol Use (30-day mean) Before and After Minimum Drinking Age (MDA) was Raised--United States



# Minimum age to 21 reduces youthful single vehicle nighttime crashes (-20%)

(O'Malley and Wagenaar, 1991)

# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

(2) Implementation, increased publicity, and enforcement of other laws to reduce alcoholimpaired driving

# **Reduce Alcohol-Impaired Driving**

 Lower legal blood alcohol limits reduces alcohol-related crashes (e.g., Hingson et al., 1996, 2000)

 Make it illegal for those under 21 to drive after <u>any</u> drinking

Administrative license revocation

# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

# (3) Restrictions on alcohol retail outlet density

# Local Outlet Density

 Higher levels of drinking and "binge" drinking with higher number of alcohol outlets within one mile of campus (Chaloupka & Wechsler, 1996)

 Even simple mapping may suggest interventions

# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

# (4) Increased price and excise taxes on alcoholic beverages

# Pricing

- Many studies show association of price with consumption and harmful outcomes, especially for young heavy drinkers (Toomey & Wagenaar, 2002)
- For example:
  - Restrictions on happy hours or price promotions
  - Excise taxes on alcohol

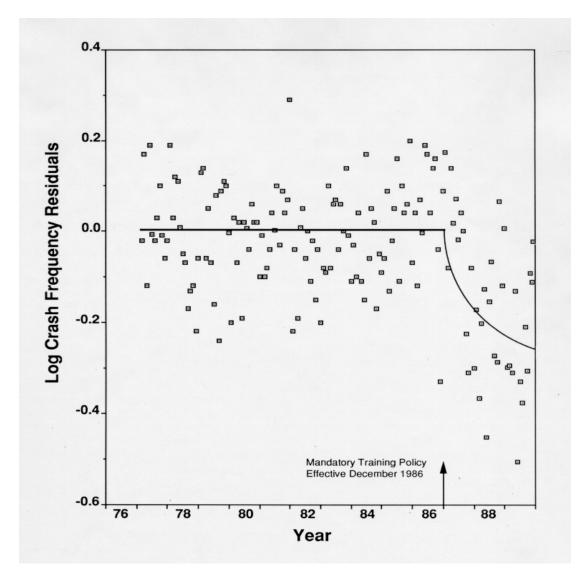
# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

### (5) Responsible beverage service policies in social and commercial settings

# Server Training and Responsible Policies (Saltz, Holder, et al.)

- Limiting sales of pitches
- Alcohol-free drinks and food
- No more last call
- ID Checks

#### Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes Before and After Mandatory Server Training Policy in Oregon, USA



# **Recommendations – Tier 2**

(6) The formation of a campus and community coalition may be critical to implement these strategies effectively **Community Interventions** 

PRC Community Trials Project (Holder, Saltz et al.)

Communities Mobilizing for Change (Wagenaar et al)

Massachusetts Saving Lives Program (Hingson et al.)

# **Concluding Thoughts**

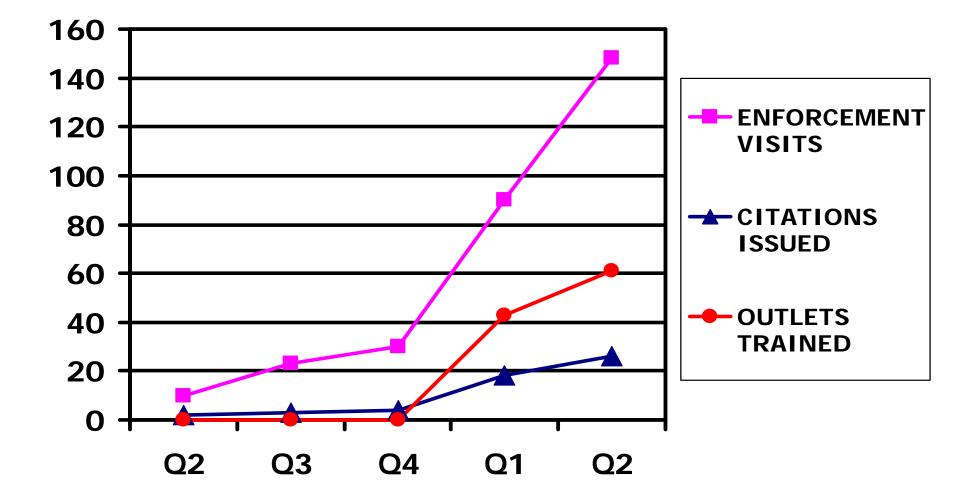
 Try to keep major players moving in the same direction

Keep trying (even when you succeed)

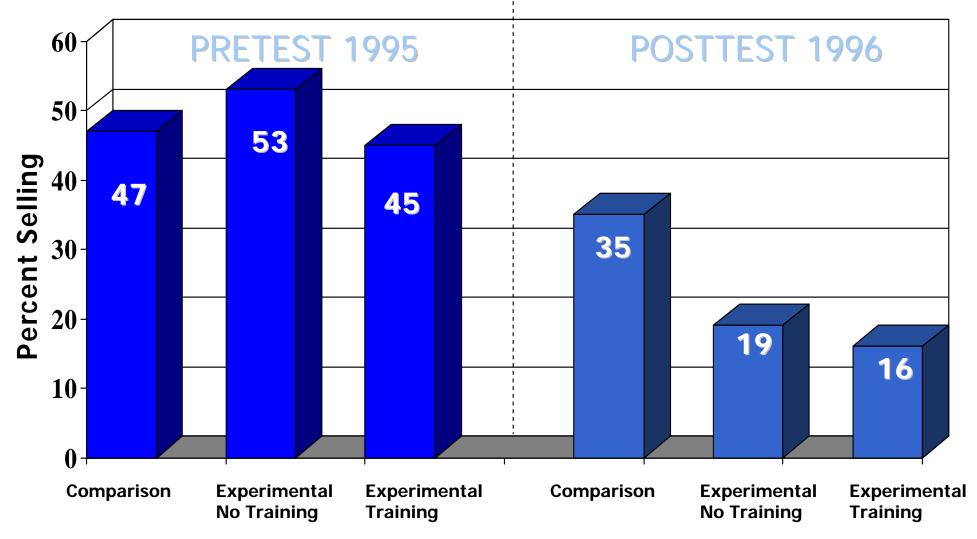
 Involve local researchers for design and evaluation

#### (Extra slides from Bob Saltz follow)

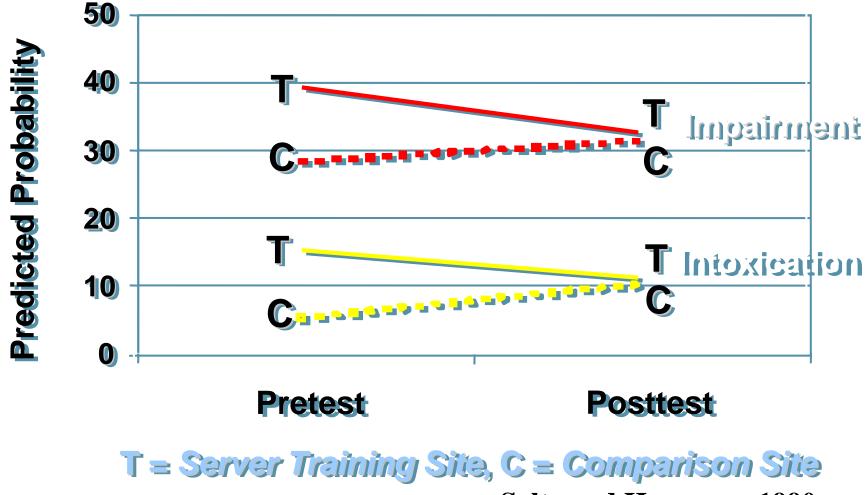
#### Cumulative Underage Access Activities



#### Underage Access Underage Purchase Survey -All Communities-

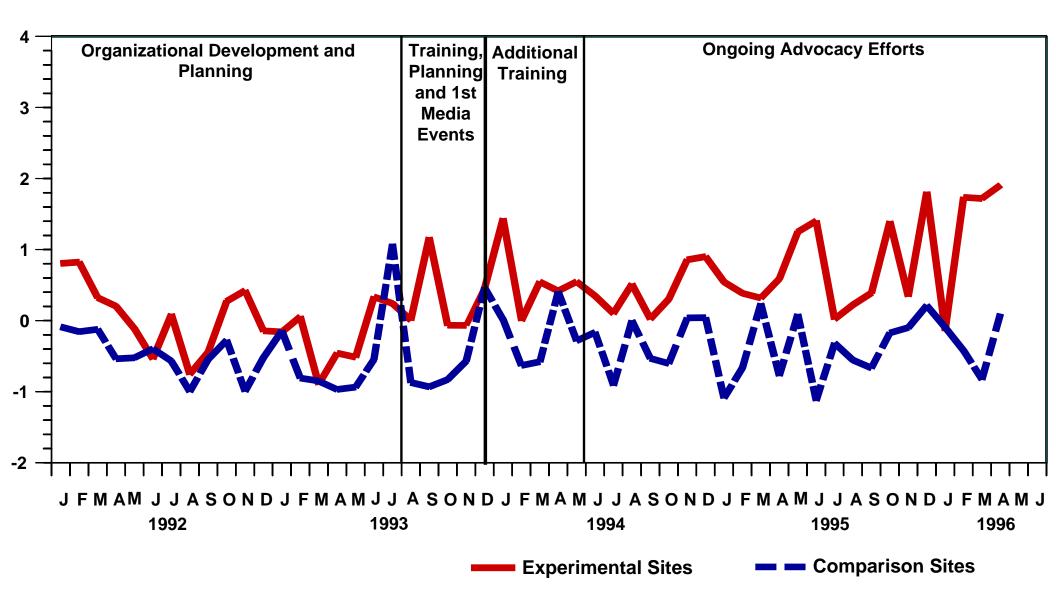


#### Probability of Impairment and Intoxication Following Alcohol Beverage Server Training Santa Cruz, CA



Saltz and Hennessy, 1990

#### **Newspaper Score - Local Stories**



## **Examples of Tier 2 Interventions**

Northwest Region

## Willamette University

Community Task Force

Greater Enforcement – Underage

Training in Controlled Dispersal

# University of Portland

 Community Substance Abuse Prevention Team

- End of Finals Night
- Business Training in Marketing & Pricing
- Integrated Evaluation Data

# Washington State University

Comprehensive Community Program

Greater Enforcement – Proactive

 Coupled with extensive Normative Education



#### Thank you!