

Consider the following ideas...



Offer non-alcoholic drinks to your guests.

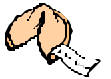
Have soft drinks, coffee, tea or non-alcoholic punches for those who choose not to drink. Sparkling grape juice is a nice alternative to wine.



Consider having a cash bar. If you don't want to charge for all liquor than think about providing the first two or three drinks and then charging. If people are paying for their drinks, they may limit themselves.



Serve food with alcohol. A full stomach slows the passage of alcohol into the bloodstream. This helps reduce the rate at which intoxication occurs.



Serve snacks later in the evening with coffee and/or tea. Serve the refreshments soon enough for those guests considering leaving early. It won't sober up your guests, but it may encourage them to stop drinking alcohol earlier.



Provide small gifts to the designated drivers just to let them know you appreciate their efforts. Small items such as key chains, pen lights, or coffee mugs, are nice inexpensive gifts. Display them in a decorated basket.



Hire bartenders who have taken the server intervention program. This course teaches ways to encourage responsible service through an understanding of the basics of preventing and dealing with intoxication.



Ask the Disc Jockey to announce throughout the evening "Please don't drink and drive."



Hang a banner above or near the bar stating, "Please don't drink and drive". Another idea is to have balloons printed with the same message. This will serve as a reminder to guests and show your concern for their safety.



Have someone designated to drive guests home. They can always come back for their car the next day.



Hire a taxi to be available from 11:00 am – 2:00 am. Pay for the cab yourself. Your friends won't object to a free ride home.



Plan for a bus to pick up invited guests at a designated location and return them there at the end of the night.



Suggest your guests stay overnight at a nearby hotel or motel. Perhaps you could book several rooms ahead of time, just in case.



Even under the best circumstances there is always the chance some people will drink too much. If one of your guests have been drinking excessively, remember that you are responsible for their safety until they are sober.

You could be in for more legal responsibility than you are aware of! As the host...



You can be held responsible for injuries or damages that occur as a result of the alcohol you provide.



You are responsible for what happens to guest when they are in your home or on your property.



You are also responsible for your guests at other functions you organize, like weddings, street parties and company parties.



You may be held responsible for the safety and behavior of your guests until they are sober, not just until they leave your party or function.



More and more, courts are placing legal responsibility on people who serve alcohol or host events where guests are drinking.



If you plan ahead, you can lower both your liability risk and your guest's risk of harm.

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Now Relax . . . You have provided the BEST for your party guests!

Please Don't Drink and Drive

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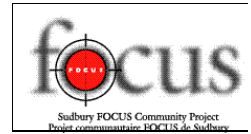
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Provide The Best...



For Your Guests!

Include these practical tips to ensure your guests have a safe and enjoyable evening.