This is State Health Officer, Doctor Scott Harris. Did you know that excessive alcohol use is responsible for approximately 88-thousand deaths in the United States each year? Drinking too much alcohol increases people’s risk of health-related injuries, violence, drowning, liver disease, and even some types of cancer. The good news is that we can all do our part to prevent alcohol misuse or abuse.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, and it’s a great time to raise awareness about alcohol abuse and take action to prevent it. The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence is highlighting the important public health issue of underage drinking, a problem with devastating individual, family and community consequences.

Reducing underage drinking is critical to securing a healthy future for our youth. If you have children, talk to them today about the risk of alcohol abuse. For more information, visit the Family Education page on the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence website at ncadd-dot-org. Again, that website is ncadd-dot.org.

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