

**PARENTS
WHO HOST
LOSE
THE MOST™**



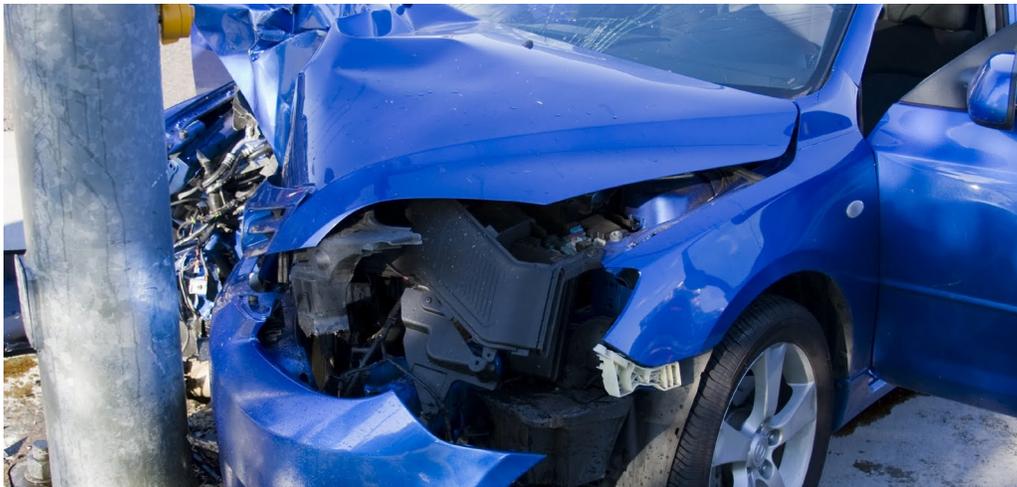
Don't be
a party to
teenage
drinking.

It's against
the law.

A program of Prevention Action Alliance

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The 100 Deadliest Days of Summer



Across our country, [Highway Patrol units and local law enforcement are stepping up traffic enforcement](#) ahead of what the American Automobile Association calls the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer.

The 100 days are those between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when [AAA says teen drivers are far more likely to be involved in car crashes](#) because they're out of school and on the road. They're also far more likely than adults to be involved in crashes and fatal crashes.

As a reporter for a local newspaper, I saw the impacts an alcohol and drug-involved car crash had on families and the community:

Julie* was riding as a passenger with one of her best friends, Brandy*, when Brandy crashed headlong into a car in the opposite lane. The crash ultimately killed Julie, but not until after weeks of life support that seemed to drag on for so long.

The driver, also a recent graduate, pled guilty and received a six-month jail sentence. Before the accident, she drove into a sign on the side of the road and knew she was intoxicated. The driver of the other vehicle received only minor injuries.

Julie's parents were devastated beyond words. Her mother, who updated us regularly on her daughter's condition, spent days at a time crying in the hospital. She was frustrated when Brandy's sentence came down.

A small town was torn in two. They held a community vigil to honor Julie, who was still in

the hospital at the time, and tried and make sense of the tragedy. People mourned. For weeks, all anyone could talk about was the car crash, how Julie was doing, and what would or should happen to Brandy. Bitter, even hateful, arguments took place on social media and the web.

It's because of tragedies like Julie's that I came to work at [Prevention Action Alliance](#), to support the programming, including [Parents Who Host](#), that we do here.

As a reporter, I followed these kinds of tragedies, helping our community gain a sense of what happened and where do go from here.

At PAA, I work with people like you to get ahead of these tragedies, to prevent loss of life, harm, and family and community discord so our communities can grow and prosper rather than suffer and tear each other apart.

I can't stress enough that the work you do matters. Because of it, countless lives have been saved. If we can save one life – just one teen like Julie – it will all be worth it; but, I know that when we work together, we can save even more.

Thank you from all of us at Prevention Action Alliance for doing your part for prevention.

Yours,

Nathan Kraatz
Communications Manager
Prevention Action Alliance



* Names have been altered to protect grieving families.



Have something you want shared in the next Parents Who Host newsletter? Questions? Comments?

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