

A Message To Our Participants:

If you are like most of the many thousands of people of Sonoma County who have been arrested and convicted of driving under influence over the years, you are probably feeling a combination of humiliation, anguish, shame, guilt, and anger over the legal ordeal you have been going through. You are also probably feeling stress and resentment over the time and money you have had spend to avoid more serious legal consequences and to regain you driving privileges. These are normal feelings and reactions to what is usually a very traumatic experience for most people.

By enrolling in and successfully completing the Drinking and Driving Program can begin the process of turning all this around and prevent from happening again in your life, the staff and I know from this experience that most people who successfully complete the program work through their negatives feelings and leave feeling much better about themselves because they did get something of real value from their educational and group experiences. For this happen for you, you must do two things besides willingly participate. You must take responsibility for your behavior and accept the fact that you are human and that you made mistake.

For our part, the Drinking and Driving Program is committed to providing you dedicated, highly trained professional staff who believe that education and counseling about alcohol, drugs, and driving are the foundation of successful prevention. During your experience in the program, you will have the opportunity to learn a lot about many interesting issues relevant to the use of alcohol, drugs and driving that will be helpful to you and your family now and in the future. Please understand and trust that our staff is here to assist and support your goal of regaining your driving privileges, not to admonish or humiliate your further because you made a mistake. You can expect to be treated with courtesy, dignity and respect at all times.

Best wishes for your successful completion of the program

Sincerely,

John M. Bilich, Ph. D
Program Manager