



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ALTERNATE ROUTES

WHY SHOULD I BUY THIS PRODUCT INSTEAD OF ANOTHER ONE?

There's nothing like it. No federal mandates exist for what an alcohol diversion program should include. That leaves facilitators like you scrambling to put together a program from random materials. *Alternate Routes* is a comprehensive program that presents everything in one package.

It's field tested. *Alternate Routes* is based on actual experiences of an Oregon juvenile department and court.

It incorporates Best Practices. *Alternate Routes* uses a strength-based approach which has been proven to improve motivation and cooperation. It also has a parent/family component to improve program effectiveness.

HOW SHOULD I USE THIS PROGRAM?

You can use the 12 sessions sequentially or however they would best serve your young clients' needs. You can present the sessions in large-group formats, individual formats, multifamily formats, or a combination of formats. You can use *Alternate Routes* in alternative schools, drug courts, community programs, schools with diversion or intervention programs, and treatment centers that work with adolescents.

ISN'T A DIVERSION PROGRAM TOO LATE FOR CLIENTS ALREADY IN THE SYSTEM?

For some clients, the answer is yes. Underneath the alcohol use may lie dramatic problems and issues such as child abuse, mental illness, or self-harm. These issues require support and attention beyond a diversion program. However, a diversion program can be instrumental in uncovering those issues. As a facilitator, your role is to help the youth get the right kind of help for their needs.

WHY IS A STRENGTH-BASED APPROACH IMPORTANT?

If you're a parent, you've noticed the difference between jumping on your kids when they do something wrong and praising them when they do something right. The same holds true for your young clients.

IS FUNDING AVAILABLE?

Yes. *Alternate Routes* qualifies for funding under the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws grant program provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. To apply, please request an application from JJC. **By mail:** Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000. **By fax:** (301) 519-5212.

Online: www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org. Go to "Ask JJ" at the bottom of that page.

IS TRAINING AVAILABLE?

Yes. Training is available, and takes one day. You don't need to be a counselor or teacher to be an *Alternate Routes* facilitator. You *do* need to like and believe in adolescents. Deliver a serious message that also entertains and engages. Be approachable without being a "pal." In short, be a walking, living instrument of faith. Training can help you accomplish this. For dates and locations, call 1-800-328-9000, ext. 4324.