



## **Alcoholism Consequences**

Alcohol abuse can lead to:

- Financial, legal, work, school, and relationship problems
- Violence (e.g., child/spouse abuse, homicide)
- Accidents (e.g., vehicle crashes, falls, drowning, burns and firearm injuries)
- Alcoholism
- Liver disease; cardiovascular disease; gastrointestinal problems; cancers
- Depression, anxiety, and suicide
- Dementia, disability, and death

([NCADD](#))

Child Maltreatment

- 1 in 4 children younger than age 18 is exposed to family alcohol abuse or dependence. ([NIAAA](#))
- Substance abuse is the primary reason children are removed from their home and provided shelter in Manatee County. ([DCF](#))

Underage Drinking

*Underage drinking cost the nation an estimated \$53 billion annually ([IOM](#)). It costs the citizens of Florida \$4.5 billion and Manatee County \$62 million ([DCF](#)).*

- *Alcohol can cause good kids to make really bad decisions* resulting in car crashes, suicide, homicide, rape, unwanted pregnancy, vandalism, academic failure, or alcohol poisoning.
- *Alcohol can interfere with normal brain development.* ([NIAAA](#)) Exposing the brain to alcohol during adolescence may interrupt key processes of brain development, possibly leading to mild cognitive impairment as well as to further escalation of drinking. ([NIAAA](#))
- *Binge drinking:* Full-time college students 18 to 22 years old are among the heaviest drinkers, with 42.2 percent engaging in binge-drinking. ([SAMHSA](#))

Alcohol and Pregnancy

*Women who are pregnant or may become pregnant are advised to abstain from alcohol.*