

Statewide conference recognizes Working Together Coalition



Receiving the award were (from left) Pine River Police Chief Josh Ebert, Cass County Sheriff-Elect Tom Burch, Leech Lake Tribal Officer Scott Kellar, Coordinators LeeAnn Sampson, Kelly Felton and Pine River-Backus Elementary Youth and Family Services Worker Denise Koring.
Photo submitted

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The Shutting off the Tap to Teens and Young Adults Conference was held Dec. 13, in Bloomington.

Every year at this conference a coalition is recognized for their efforts in reducing underage drinking. This year the Working Together Coalition that works in the Pine River-Backus, Northland Community and Walker-Hackensack-Akeley school districts received the Coalition of the Year Award from the Minnesota Prevention Resource Center.

Their accomplishments of the past year include these.

- Expanding the efforts into the school districts of Walker-Hackensack-Akeley and Northland Community School District.
- Working with the Cass County Attorney's Office, Cass County Sheriff's Department, Cass County Board of Commissioners, Pine River Police Department and Pine River City Council to pass a Social Host Ordinance.
- Collaborating with local school districts.
- Working with a leadership group called Teens Leading the Way Groups in all three schools.
- Reaching out to the parents in communities.