## TALK to your CHILD EARLY about ALCOHOL



## Early alcohol use is linked to:

- problems with school work,
- difficulties focusing on tasks,
- problems with alcohol later in life,
- depression and anxiety, and
- poor decision making.



## Tips to help delay your child's use of alcohol:

- Take the time to talk often.
- Set clear and consistent messages.
- Spend time together as a family.
- Be a positive role model.
- Be in the know. Know their friends, the facts, and that your voice counts.

**Remember** you are the most important influence in your child's life.

## DID YOU KNOW?



The brain continues to develop into the mid 20's.

Delay alcohol use as long as possible as it can harm brain development.



On average, students report having their first drink at the age of 14.1



Alcohol is the number one drug used by Ontario students, in grades 7 to 12.1

For more information call 1-800-267-7875 or 613-549-1232 kflapublichealth.ca





References: 1. Boak, A., Hamilton, H.A., Adlaf, E.M., & Mann, R.E. (2013). Drug use among Ontario students, 1977-2013: Detailed OSDUHS findings (CAMH Research Document Series No. 36). Toronto, ON: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Content adapted from a resource produced by the City of Hamilton Public Health Services