

## **Allegany County STOP-DWI Program Annual Report 2021**

In 2021, the Allegany County STOP-DWI Program completed 37 years as a community based resource totally funded by drunk driver fines. The 2021 budget of \$88,54 was expended to provide a variety of services to the community to battle drunk driving. Funding from the agency aided in increased enforcement, prosecution, and supervision of offenders as well as improving education efforts and public information. The agency relies on positive partnerships with law enforcement, Probation, the District Attorney's office, town and village officials and not-for-profit organizations.

During the year funding was provided to ten municipalities. All of these departments, the New York State Police and the NYS University Police participated in unannounced DWI patrols. A total of 120 alcohol-related arrests were made in 2021. The number of DWI arrests appears to be about average. It is down from the previous year. There were no fatalities in the county this year. The STOP-DWI Program received a grant of \$17,000 from the NYS STOP-DWI Foundation to provide crackdown enforcement during designated holiday periods.

The STOP-DWI office continues to provide funding to the District Attorney's Office to provide support for an ADA and secretary to assist prosecutions of DWI arrests. The Probation Department received funding for the year 2021 to be applied toward salaries for a Probation Officer and an Account Clerk to assist in the collection of fines, preparation of pre-sentence investigations, and supervision of those convicted of DWI offenses.

The Victim Impact Panel, collaboratively administered by this agency, Probation, and the Allegany Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, continued to be a viable tool for offender accountability and a method of Restorative Justice for victims of DWI crimes. In 2021 attendance at the Victim Impact Panels was drastically reduced by a number of factors. DWI arrests were down as a whole, but the continued closure of many courts into 2021 meant that sentencing was not taking place either. As courts began to open back up we did see some more referrals to the program.

The STOP-DWI Program continued to provide prevention and education services to youth and adults in the County where they were able to. The agency has supported many local events for school age youth in years past. However, many schools were still not able to participate in the programs and some of those events have not returned. We did disseminate information when possible and looked for other ways to promote safe practices in the community including advertisements on shopping carts as well as local radio programs and public service announcements promoting DWI efforts.

STOP-DWI is grateful for the efforts of local and State legislators who have lobbied to increase sanctions for offenders.

Brian Perkins, Allegany County STOP-DWI Program Coordinator