

Celebrate **LIFE!**

*A Guide
for Planning
All-Night
Alcohol/Drug-Free
Celebrations for
Teens*



*Eighth
Edition*

Operation Prom/Graduation
Virginia Department of Education

Celebrate Life!

A GUIDE FOR PLANNING ALL NIGHT *ALCOHOL/DRUG-FREE* CELEBRATIONS FOR TEENS

A compilation of ideas and comments from parents, school personnel, community members and graduates from many Virginia High School All Night Celebration Chairpersons and Committees who have planned and implemented All Night Alcohol/Drug-Free Prom and Graduation Celebrations.

Eighth Edition

2004

Edited by
Northern Virginia Project Graduation

Virginia Operation Prom/Graduation

A project of
THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
in cooperation with the
VIRGINIA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION

Celebrate Life! Planning Guide

This document has been reproduced and distributed to assist Virginia school and community groups plan and conduct alcohol and other drug-free activities during high-risk social events of the year: prom and graduation. The publication includes examples of projects undertaken by Virginia high schools in their efforts to provide safe, fun-filled, alcohol and other drug-free party environments that appeal to students.

The views and opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily represent the official views and opinions of the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, or the Virginia State Police Association. Localities need to plan activities that meet their own needs. Sample information from schools included in this edition has been edited for style and clarity.

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**The OP/G PLANNING GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE
ON THE WEB!**

As her project to obtain the Girl Scout Gold Award, (Girl Scouting's highest award available only to Senior Scouts and the equivalent of the Boy Scout Eagle Award), Renee Kettering from Cleves, Ohio, has put the Virginia *"Celebrate Life! A guide for Planning All-Night Alcohol/Drug-Free Celebrations for Teens, Sixth Edition"* on the web. It can be accessed at: www.celebrationplanning.cjb.net

Congratulations to Miss Kettering for a job well done!

Northern Virginia Project Graduation (NVPG) has agreed to maintain the online version of "Celebrate Life!" and to update it as necessary. The updated "Celebrate Life!" is available from their website: www.NVPG.org

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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- **Sharon Murphy**, OP/G coordinator, 1990-2000, author/editor "*Celebrate Life! Planning Guide*", editions 1-7, co-chair of the first All-Night Grad Celebration in Northern Virginia, co-founder of **Northern Virginia Project Graduation**, a certified balloon artist, and retired owner of a balloon decorating company in Northern Virginia.
- **Betty Williams**, Decorations Resource Person, for the many hours spent sharing information, expertise, and resources.
- All of the **OP/G Work=shop Teams dating back to 1989**.
- The **Virginia high school celebration coordinators and committee members** who have so willingly shared their successful party ideas.
- The **Virginia OP/G Honor Roll Applicants** who have shared their information and ideas since 1990.
- The thousands of **persons who have had a part in making these alcohol/drug-free celebrations a success** and a wonderful memory for our students.
- The tens of thousands of **students who have attended** and enjoyed these celebrations.
- The **Virginia Department of Education** for their support.
- The **Virginia State Police Association** for their support.
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- **Northern Virginia Project Graduation (NVPG)** for their interest, ideas, and assistance. Their website is NVPG.org, which includes an online copy of this guidebook.
- **All who took the time to give constructive criticism**. This guide has been revised with your comments in mind. Keep your ideas coming! Let us know what works in *your* community.

Additional copies of this guide are available free to Virginia residents or for a small fee for out-of-state requests. Call or write:

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Speakers are available for workshops, conferences, conventions, and smaller meetings. Call or write Arlene Cundiff at the address above.

If you have samples, ideas, or information you would like to share for publication in a future edition of "*Celebrate Life!*" or to be used at a workshop, please call or write either Arlene Cundiff or NVPG, PO Box 10344, McLean, VA 22102.

The materials in this guide are purposely not copyrighted. Feel free to copy or use any information or ideas. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CREDIT IS APPRECIATED AND REQUESTED**. Please credit: **Virginia Operation Prom/Graduation**.

Celebrate Life! Planning Guide

A Guide for Planning and Implementing
All Night *Alcohol- and Drug-Free* Celebrations for Teens

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I

Virginia Operation Prom/Graduation	1
Why Have an After Prom or After Grad Celebration?	3
Everyone Benefits!	4
A Recipe for a Successful Celebration	5
HONOR ROLL AWARDS PROGRAM	6
Why We Said, “YES!”	9
Help Each Other!	10
Just For Students	12

SECTION II

STEERING COMMITTEE	13
General Information	14
Relationship With PTA	18
LEGAL MATTERS	20
Nonprofit vs. Charitable	20
Income Tax	21
Sales Tax	21
Licenses	22
Licensed Characters & Copyrighted Materials	25
Insurance	25
CHRONOLOGY FOR PLANNING AN ALL NIGHT CELEBRATION	27

SECTION III

THE STEERING COMMITTEE	32
Officers	32
Celebration Site	36
Celebration Guidelines	39
Volunteers	44
Theme Building	47
Working With Vendors	55
Working with the Fire Marshal	56

SECTION IV

COMMITTEES	58
Activities	59
Security	77
Decorations	81
Decorating With Balloons	86

SECTION V

Food	92
Funding	96
Prizes	111
Publicity	115
Tickets/Reservations, I.D., Entry Packets	123
Clean-up	126
Appendix A.....	127