

Local workers receive training on responsible serving of alcohol in Vernon - NorthJersey.com

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Ten local servers attended a free TiPs responsible alcohol beverage server training on July 18, sponsored by The Vernon Coalition at the Dorothy Henry Library, Vernon. Tina Thompson of The Center for Prevention and Counseling in Newton, a certified TiPs trainer, instructed participants to recognize and address drunk patrons and identify underage drinkers with appropriate measures encouraging a responsible, safe and productive establishment. Most attending were familiar with some kind of beverage server training but also agreed that these trainings are always imperative to review and improve their skills.



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Participants were tested after the training which included watching video examples of scenarios, role playing with each other and discussing real situations that happen in their places of business. Another recommendation of the training is for establishments to purchase and keep a "logbook" where every employee records information about their shift.

In the event of any concerns about patrons, this logbook verifies that the staff and business took every step to address the situation responsibly. One attendee mentioned that being able to include their TiPs certification on a job application was also a great way to positively stand out when being considered for employment. Certification cards, which are valid for three years, are mailed to each participant's home after their tests are graded through Health Communications, Inc. The Vernon Coalition has been offering these free TiPs trainings for staff of bars, restaurants, liquor stores, and off and on premise caterers through its federal grant which requires the coalition to support responsible alcohol serving in Vernon.

Owners or managers of businesses in the Vernon area who serve or sell alcohol and would like more information or would like to host one of these free trainings, contact Annmarie Shafer, Coordinator of The Vernon Coalition at 973-383-4787.

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