PEER ADVOCACY: A PATH TO INCREASING SURVIVOR SUPPORTS ON CAMPUS

Crisis Intervention Services
Oskaloosa, IA
OUTLINE

- Why peer advocacy matters
- History of CIS supported programs
- Range of services
- Samples of student led initiatives
- Tips for how to get started
- How to support student advocates
WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

“45% of colleges reported no sexual assaults between 2011 and 2013”

Image from: http://www.psychguides.com/interact/sexual-assaults-on-campus/
WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Average Number of Reported Sexual Assaults

- Public
- Private

* Non-profit 4-year schools with at least 2,000 enrolled students

Source: http://ope.ed.gov/security/

Image: http://www.psychguides.com/interact/sexual-assaults-on-campus/
WHY IS PEER ADVOCACY IMPORTANT TO ADMINISTRATORS?
WHY DON’T VICTIMS REPORT OR SEEK HELP?
WHY IS PEER ADVOCACY IMPORTANT TO STUDENTS
WHY IS PEER ADVOCACY IMPORTANT TO STUDENTS
Why is peer advocacy important to students:

- Building trust and restoring community
- Small campuses, small communities
- Trust for authority figures versus trust for students
- Accountability
- Shared experiences and understanding of culture
WHAT SERVICES OR SUPPORTS ARE CURRENTLY OFFERED ON YOUR CAMPUS?
WHAT SERVICES OR SUPPORTS ARE MISSING?
PROGRAM HISTORY

- Began approximately nine years ago
- Polk County Crisis and Advocacy then transferred to CIS
- In response to a high profile sexual assault case on campus
- Partnership with the Counseling Center

- Began in 2008 or 2009
- Modeled after SARA
- DVA/SAC then transferred to CIS
- Partnership with the Center for Religion, Spirituality and Social Justice

- Began in 2013
- Modeled after SARA
- Partnership with Office for Sexual Violence Response and Healthy Relationship Promotion
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: HOTLINE

- Talk and text hotline
- On call rotation, call outs, and ongoing client services
- Hotline Policy

Cell Phone Hotline Policy

Call and Text History:
- Delete the call history internally find strategies across multiple shifts if there is a client.
- We will also plan to delete.

Texting:
- Victims always have the text conversation with a "You have reached your point you want".

On Call Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, September 7th</th>
<th>Tuesday, September 8th</th>
<th>Wednesday, September 9th</th>
<th>Thursday, September 10th</th>
<th>Friday, September 11th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
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</tbody>
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OPEN SHIFT
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: HOTLINE

- Benefits
- Challenges
- The kind of data you will get
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: STUDENT LED EVENTS

- Domestic Violence Awareness Week: Grinnell 2014
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: STUDENT LED EVENTS

- Simpson Project Not Asking For It
  - [https://vimeo.com/125085904](https://vimeo.com/125085904)

SIMPSON COLLEGE PRESENTS
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: STUDENT LED EVENTS

- Heed the Senses
- Butterfly Project
- Doors
- Vigil
- It Happens Here
- Project Not Asking For It
- Greek Life
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: STUDENT LED EDUCATION

- Simpson Mentors In Violence Prevention
WHAT IS POSSIBLE: COLLABORATION

- Referrals
- Shared Resources
- Staff Training
- Technical Assistance
WHAT STUDENT LED INITIATIVES ARE HAPPENING AT YOUR CAMPUS?
Know your school and their structure
- Drake and MOU versus Simpson and Grinnell with minimal needs

Picking the right champions
- Neutral, confidential and has some power

Finding a victim service provider and knowing state requirements
- Not all service providers will have the capacity for staff time.
WHO ARE THE VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR YOUR AREA?
STRATEGIES FOR STARTING

- Boundaries, collaboration and student trust
  - Balancing financial contributions from the campus and maintain separate status
  - How can you help build sustainability in other ways
  - College staff time from a neutral, confidential party
STRATEGIES FOR STARTING

- Be mindful of student timelines. Recruit in the spring so can be up and running in the fall.
- Be mindful of effective advertising strategies in the recruitment process.
- Build student leadership while recognizing their limitations.
- Matching the service to the student population.
- Professional leaders have sense of campus culture
- Student advocates have chance to debrief and support one another
- Training that is hands on, includes practice and is ongoing
- Training includes supportive resources for student advocates as well as those they offer
ADVICE FOR NEW ADVOCATES
ADVICE FOR NEW ADVOCATES
IMPACTS WE HAVE SEEN

- Increase in student led initiatives
- Increase in students seeking help
- Better collaboration between systems
BENEFITS
BENEFITS
INTEGRATION IS ESSENTIAL!
## EXAMPLES OF INTEGRATION

- New Student Orientation
- Residence Life
- Title IX Committees and Coordinated Community Response Teams
- Advertising
- Collaborate with other student groups
GOOD LUCK!

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