

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Sexual Assault Prevention

(Summary of planned activity 2018-2019 academic year)

The NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) takes a proactive, educational approach to issues surrounding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking. Through specific programming and educational efforts, and utilization of on-campus and off-campus resources, we provide awareness, education, prevention, advocacy, and assistance to all members of our campus communities.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION

Freshman Orientation

Freshman Orientation includes a mandatory Open House for all new students. Each student must participate in a session which provides information about prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence. It also includes campus resources available for reporting and victim services.

Mandatory Online Training

All new incoming students will be required to complete an online module that will include comprehensive information regarding education and prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault. The module will also include how to report and services and resources available for victims.

Bystander Intervention Training

One of the topics for intervention training is healthy/unhealthy relationships. This training program provides NWACC students the opportunity to learn positive ways to intervene in different social situations. This program can be delivered in any academic environment including classrooms, student leadership organizations, or student clubs on campus. It is important to create a supportive community willing to engage and promote a safe environment.

Safety Awareness and Self Defense

NWACC will host a safety awareness and self-defense seminar, led by local law enforcement from Bentonville Police Department. The presentation will include information and discussion about situational awareness, prevention, minimizing risk, evasion and escape strategies.

INTEGRATE PREVENTION INTO COURSE WORK WHERE APPROPRIATE

Successful First Year Student Classes

The Successful First Year Student course is open to all beginning college students. It is designed to help students make a successful transition to the demands of college. The Dean of Students and Director of Student Conduct will provide sexual assault prevention education, including rape culture, as a part of the curriculum for this course. Currently, there are 9 sections of this course in the Fall and an estimated 4 sections for Spring. The average class size is 20 students.

Don't Cancel Class

We plan to implement a program to encourage instructors not to cancel class if they need to miss due to a personal conflict. Instead, they may contact the Office of Violence Prevention or Dean of Students and someone from our Violence Prevention CCRT will substitute for the instructor to present on domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.

RAISE AWARENESS AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR PREVENTION ACROSS ALL POPULATIONS

Community Resource Fair

The Community Resource Fair is a free event on the Bentonville campus of Northwest Arkansas Community College. It is intended to inform students, staff, and the public of many services available to them throughout the community. The event features table tops and displays representing various community resources, college services, and programs that can provide assistance, advice, support and counseling.

What Were You Wearing?

Northwest Arkansas Community College will host a community art display called "What Were You Wearing?" during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. "What Were You Wearing?" is a national campaign that challenges participants to engage with the universal connection we have with clothing and reflect on what gives this specific rape culture myth so much power. The Installation asks participants to understand that it is never about the clothing and the act of shedding those clothes is never enough to bring peace or comfort to survivors. The violation is not simply woven in to the fabric of the material, it is a part of the survivor's new narrative. If only ending sexual violence was as easy as changing our clothes. Instead it requires all of us to evaluate what enabled us as individuals and as a society to ask, "what were you wearing?" in the first place.

Learning Objectives:

Participants will review differences between the messages they have received regarding victim blaming and the Installation.

Participants will formulate healthy attitudes and beliefs regarding the common "clothing causes sexual violence" rape myth.

Participants will demonstrate understanding by not asking the question, “what were you wearing?” to survivors in the future.

Participants will discuss the Installation with peer groups beyond their attendance.

Rape Culture

The NWA Center for Sexual Assault will provide a workshop on the topic of Rape Culture in the Fall 2018 and the Spring 2019. This is a powerful message which raises awareness and provides a resource for prevention. This workshop is open to all students, faculty, and staff. Some faculty include it as part of their curriculum and bring the entire class to the presentation.

Student Club

The Office of Violence Prevention is in the process of starting a student club for NWACC students who wish to participate in awareness and prevention events related to domestic violence and sexual assault. The goal is to get students actively involved in culture change, bystander intervention, awareness, prevention, and peer to peer education.

Men Engaging Men and Healthy Masculinity

One of the goals of the CCRT is to create a program designed to engage and mobilize men to be involved in awareness, prevention, and education regarding gender based violence. Some of the goals of this program are to promote healthy masculinity, change cultural norms, and promote conversations in an environment of men engaging men. NWACC is consulting with the Men Can Stop Rape initiative to reach this goal.

IDENTIFY PRIVATE OR FEDERAL GRANTS TO ADDRESS PREVENTION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

OVW Campus Program Grant

Northwest Arkansas Community College is currently receiving federal funds through a Campus Program Grant from the Office on Violence Against Women, a component of the United States Department of Justice. It is a three year grant which was funded at the beginning of 2017. Congress created the “Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking on Campus Program” in recognition of the unique issues and challenges that colleges face in preventing and responding to Sexual Assault and Interpersonal Violence.

Through this grant, our campus has been able to create an Office of Violence Prevention with a full time coordinator. We have built a comprehensive and functioning Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Community Coordinated Response Team, including both on and off-campus partners. Some of these partners include staff, faculty, law enforcement, prosecuting attorney’s office, advocates, judges, shelters and service providers.

Some other purpose areas of the grant include:

- Provide mandatory online education and prevention material for all incoming students (first year and transfer)
- Train all campus law enforcement to respond effectively to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking
- Provide training to members of campus disciplinary boards so they may respond effectively to situations involving sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking
- Implement an ongoing universal prevention and bystander intervention program on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking
- Develop, strengthen, and implement campus policies and protocols
- Implement and operate education and prevention programs
- Develop victim services programs and population specific services
- Create and disseminate information about victims' on and off campus options in regard to bringing disciplinary or other legal action, including assistance to victims in immigration matters
- Support improved coordination among campus administrators, department of public safety, and local law enforcement to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking on campus
- Develop population specific strategies and projects for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking from underserved populations on campus

NWACC is one of 45 institutions of higher education to receive a grant from OVW. As of 2016, NWACC is the only college in Arkansas to receive an award.

COLLABORATE WITH DEPT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH CENTERS TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO CARE

AIDS Awareness Event

Danny Harris and his outreach team from ARCare will provide free HIV screening, Sexual Health Education, Healthy Relationship Modules, and AIDS education. This is a two day event in November that is available to all NWACC students and community members. The outreach team provides students with contraceptives as well as community resources available to support healthy sexual relationships.

IDENTIFY OTHER TOPICS RELATING TO PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF SEX ASSAULT

Red Flag Campaign

"Red Flag" is a national Campaign developed by sexual and domestic violence prevention experts, college students, victim advocates, and college personnel. The campaign is a campus-wide effort to provide more training, education, awareness and outreach for our students, staff and faculty. This campaign is highly visible through displays across campus, posters, bathroom flyers, table top presentations at campus events, and speaking directly to students in our leadership groups and first year experience courses. We work closely with leadership, as well as academic divisions and deans across campus to bring face-to-face training and education to students, faculty, and staff.

The Red Flag campaign is also a bystander intervention program. The program is not only used to inform our campus community of prevalent issues regarding domestic violence and sexual assault, but also to educate them on services available and how to respond when they witness something that is a "red flag" for dating/domestic or sexual violence.

VAWA Adjudicator Training

The Adjudicator Training Program was developed by the National Association of Clergy Compliance Officers in compliance with VAWA (Violence Against Women ACT) training requirements. The Online VAWA Adjudicator Training Program is designed for people on campus who are adjudicating cases, including but not limited to: student conduct officers, employee relations staff, hearing and review board members and people assigned to hear the appeals, etc. The focus of this program is on the adjudication of sexual misconduct cases. The training includes education on the emotional, biological, and psychological effects of sexual violence.

Trauma Informed Response

It is important not only to promote education and awareness, but to be prepared to respond appropriately, to assist a victim of Sexual Assault. NWACC will host national speaker, Herb Tanner, to deliver a two day training seminar on Trauma Informed Response. Those invited to the training include Campus DPS, Current ALETA Class (Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy), Regional Law Enforcement Agencies, NWA Prosecuting Attorneys Offices, local Judges, local Service Providers, Conduct Review Board members, Campus Security Authorities, Confidential Advocates, expanded CCRT, staff, and faculty.