Stalking on Campus: New Policies, Tools and Resources for Coalitions and Campuses

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Overview

- Campus Response To Violence Against Women
  - Campus/University Life
  - Challenges and Barriers

- Stalking on Campus
  - Understanding and recognizing stalking on campus
  - Responding to stalking on campus
Agenda

• Introductions
  – Disciplines represented
• What will be covered?
  – Understanding Community Disciplines/Campus Life
  – Community Perceptions/Campus Perception?
  – Challenges from Community Perspective/College Perspective?
  – Campus Environment…What We Need To Know
  – Ways to Collaborate/Recommendations
  – Final Thoughts
Community Disciplines…What Do They Look Like?

Coalitions and it’s member Rape Crisis Centers

- 24-hr Hotline
- Advocacy
- Counseling
- Volunteer Training
- CCR Team/SART
- Court Accompaniment
- Prevention Education
- Education
- Events (e.g. Take Back The Night)
Colleges/Universities…What Do They Look Like?

- Federal Law/Mandates (The Clery Act, Title IX, Title VII)
- Professional Counseling
- Legal Services
- Prevention Education Programs
- Groups (Student, Men’s)
- CCR Team/SART
- First Year Orientation
- Special Programs (e.g. Don’t Cancel That Class!)
- Events (Vagina Monologues)
- Disciplinary System
- Academic Courses
- Victim Advocacy
Community Perceptions…What Do We Think About Campuses?

1 Barrier or Perception in working with campus or community
Laws/Mandates

- Federal
  - Clery Act
  - Title IX
  - Title VII

- State Laws/Mandates
  - Stalking Laws
  - AB1088
  - New York State Education Law
Community Perceptions...What Do We Think About Campuses?

- They don’t want our help
- Campuses are different...we (RCCs) couldn’t help
- They have their own system
- They have their own law enforcement
- They have their own counselors
Campus Perceptions…What Do We Think About RCCs?

• They think RCCs would not understand campus life
• RCCs are uncooperative
• Advocates don’t help law enforcement
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Barriers to Working with Sexual Assault Survivors: A Qualitative Study of Rape Crisis Center Workers
Organizational Barriers

Racism
- Subtle Ignorance
- Inclusivity

Lack of Funding
- Low salaries
- Discouraged long term commitment
- Competition between agencies
- Shifting in priorities

Professional Transitions
- Changes in staff backgrounds
- Shifting away from feminism/grassroots style
Societal Attitudes

- Denial Rape is a Problem
  - Widespread
  - 3rd party assessment of Victim credibility
  - Demeanor toward V

Willingness to offer Services
Barriers to Direct Service

- Inefficient Agency Admin
- Constraints in Use of Funding
- Lack of Funding
- Secondary Victimization
- Stigma receiving services
- Center location
- Language Barriers
- Access for People w/ Disabilities
BURNOUT is the leading issue affecting RCCs and services to victims, with all three of the other factors contributing to it.

These are widespread issues that must be addressed if RCCs are to retain experienced staff and effectively deliver services to its constituencies.

Burnout and funding shortages are characteristic of social service agencies everywhere, but secondary victimization and the dilemma of professionalism are particular, if not unique, to rape crisis work.
Campus Environment…What We Need To Know

- Primary Purpose of Colleges/Universities: Retaining Student and Promote Academic Excellence
- Changes to Anything…Can Be Complicated and Lengthy
- Relationships are Key
- Sometimes Territorial
- Disciplinary System to Address Misconduct
  - JA System vs. Legal System
- Security Personnel(non-sworn) and/or Law Enforcement (sworn officers).
Challenges to Collaboration
Ways to Collaborate

• First Step…is there a CCR Team on campus?
• Second…who are the members?
• Third…is there a victim advocate on campus?
• Next…how can you become involved?
  – Set up meetings
  – Use Technology (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
• Next…Go on campus..check it out
• Always remember…baby steps
Ways to Collaborate

• No CCR Team?
  – Do your homework
  – Set up time to meet
  – Learn the language
Benefits to Involving RCCs

• Confidentiality
• 24-Hr Services
  – Crisis Line
  – Accompaniment
  – “Don’t Cancel That Class”
Benefits to Involving RCCs

- Provide Training to Staff, Faculty, Students
  *First Responder Training:
  BARCC On-Line Course-First Responders:
  Responding to sexual assault disclosures
Benefits to Involving RCCs

• BARCC uses “SEEK” Model:
  – Safety
  – Empowerment
  – Empathy
  – Knowledge
Benefits to Involving RCCs

Collaborate on Campus Events
  – TBTN, Sorority Projects, etc.
  • Freshman Orientation
  • Provide outside perspective
  • Provide student services beyond school year.
  • Provide secondary victim support
Which Schools?

- Public and Private
- Community Colleges
Questions?
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