



## Change Initiative: Focusing Further on Alcohol Education at Ramapo

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### Project Overview

#### Change Goals

- Increase alcohol education for first year students
- Create a program for First Year Seminar (FYS) classes instructed by peer facilitators
- Program will lead to superior retention and application of alcohol related information for freshmen
- Decrease the number of students sent to the hospital each semester

### Key Successes

- Met with all key stakeholders
- Convinced stakeholders of the importance of my change
- Received overwhelming support and positive feedback
- Devised a cohesive program plan
- Received approval of program to be implemented in Fall 2015

#### Stakeholders



Robert Mentore  
FYS Program  
Coordinator



C. Rosenkranz  
Counselor –  
Substance Abuse



M. VanDerwall  
Dean of Students



C. Romano  
Associate Vice President  
Enrollment Management



J. Connell  
Director  
Student Success



J. Green  
Director  
Health and Counseling  
Services



V. Markowski  
Director  
Public Safety



M. McMahon  
Director  
Student Conduct



M. LaPorta  
Area Director  
Pine/Linden

And:

Peer  
Facilitators

### Key Challenges

- Challenging pre-existing programs
  - Alcohol Edu
  - Choices and Consequences
- Convincing resisters why change is necessary
- Sticking to ideas, beliefs, and passions
- Setting up meetings with stakeholders

### What Now?

#### Spring 2015

- Continue to receive feedback on and modify activities and program for Fall 2015
- Amend Key Points of Engagement to reflect alcohol education in FYS classes

#### Fall 2015

- Modify activities after receiving feedback from students
- Compare statistics about alcohol related incidents on campus from prior years
- Create hour-long events/discussions for some activities that can count for CEC credit for all first-year students

### Lessons Learned

- Gaining the support of high-level executives is helpful
- It is important to fight for what you believe in
- Understanding that one “no” does not spell the end
- Being open to criticism, revisions, and negotiations

SMALL CHANGE **BIG** IMPACT  
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