

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

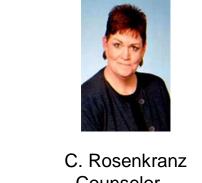
- Met with all key stakeholders
- Convinced stakeholders of the importance of my change
- Received overwhelming support and positive feedback
- Devised a cohesive program plan
- Received approval of program to be implemented in Fall 2015
- Stakeholders



Robert Mentore

FYS Program

Coordinator







M. VanDerwall

Dean of Students







Director

Director









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 than one "no" does not spell the end
- Being open to criticism, revisions, and negotiations

