



Safe Bar Collective

Collective Action for Safe Spaces
R1 2016-2017
\$20,000

The Safe Bar Collective, a project of Collective Action for Safe Spaces (CASS) in Washington, DC, uses training, safety messages, and advocacy for equitable hiring practices to equip bar and restaurant staff with the tools they need to cultivate safer environments. The Safe Bar Collective Bystander Intervention curriculum empowers bystanders to recognize and respond to sexual harassment and aggression among staff and patrons.

Communities

Adults
Bystanders
Communities of Color
Co-workers/Colleagues
LGBTQ2I

Men
Women

Products

Research: Evaluation report
Curriculum: Safe Bar Collective
Resource: Take the pledge and learn more

System:

Restaurant/hospitality industry

Level:

Local



Enhance Partnerships

An initial goal of 10 bars climbed to over 43 MOUs and climbing with such DC venues. Also partnered with DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Restaurant Opportunities Center United (ROC-United).



Strengthen Policies

Curriculum requires bars/venues adhere to their policies: recognizing and responding to sexual harassment and aggression among staff and patrons.



Learning Circles

Presented in Ontario to 50 representatives of Canadian anti-violence organizations. Trained a conglomerate of hospital workers to launch a Safe Bar Collective program in Summit County, Colorado. Participated on a panel discussion at the 2017 SXSW Conference and Festival.



Measure Impact

The program also expanded to create employment opportunities to trans people of color by training program participants with specific job and social skills to prepare them for work in the front of the house at trained Safe Bar Collective bars and restaurants.



Raise Awareness

The “You Deserve to be Treated with Respect” posters/campaign materials were created featuring images of a woman of color breastfeeding, a Muslim woman in hijab, as well as a Black trans woman based on known incidents in the DC community. Safe Bar Collective rebranded posters, window decals, and coasters, for use by certified bars. Garnered media coverage on such outlets as: DCist, Upworthy, NPR’s The Kojo Nnamdi Show, Self, HelloGiggles, Foodie and the Beast, APlus, Huffington Post, Mic.com, NBC4, and was reposted on Facebook by George Takei.



Educate & Train

Trained 250 (Goal was 65) and 43 venues.



Provide Resources

In addition to diversifying outreach to LGBT-bars and breweries/distilleries as part of this project, Safe Bar Collective also trained organizations in Colorado and Philadelphia to start similar bar training programs. Provided technical assistance to over 100 organizations (Goal was 15) across the globe that are interested in starting similar programs in their communities.



Build Champions

Trained 250 bar/restaurant staff members with ongoing relationships with venues.

What’s next:

CASS continues to expand the Safe Bar Collective working with communities beyond DC to tailor curriculum to the environment as necessary.

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