



Strategies for College Respondents

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR)
R1 2016-2017
\$30,000

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape in Pittsburgh, PA examined current sanctioning practices for sexual misconduct on college campuses, reviewed best practices for sex offender treatment models, and developed and provided recommendations and training to assist universities in accessing a variety of accountability options.

Communities

Adults
Men
Students
Women
Youth/Adolescents/Young
Adult

Products

Research: Model
sanctioning
recommendations

System:

Colleges/Universities

Level:

Local



Enhance Partnerships

PAAR partnered with the Robert Morris University, University of Pittsburgh, Point Park University, and Dr. Coufal on this project.



Strengthened Policies

PAAR assessed existing sanctioning models and practices with subject matter experts for model recommendations for university judiciary boards.



Measure Impact

PAAR conducted an assessment of the universities to examine common themes of types of sexual offenses being committed on college campuses, as well as types of violations, offenders, victims, Title IX processes, existing interventions/sanctions, victims/remedies for victims, and follow-up post sanctions.

Existing sanctions fall short of building skills with the likelihood to change behaviors and were most often either watch an online video or expulsion from school.

Judicial board process/questioning to help determine potential future risk was enhanced through questions that were geared toward gauging attitude and behavior changes by respondents.



Provide Resources

Model recommended sanctions include:

- 1) Revise videos for students that address misperceptions of consent, body language interpretation, communication and alcohol in relation to sexual violence
- 2) Meet with counseling center for two mandated sessions on problematic behavior
- 3) On-going sessions with counseling center as indicated by assessment
- 4) Psycho-education program in group format for problematic behaviors
- 5) Healthy relationship skill building workshop
- 6) Potential modified restorative justice model

What's next:

PAAR seeks additional funding for Phase II testing these recommendations. They are willing to discuss project replication and recommend interested communities work out confidentiality with schools prior to starting a similar project to ensure willingness to share Title IX stats in sexual misconduct cases.

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