



Increasing Awareness of Intimate Partner Violence on UD's Campus

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Abstract

Most people know that sexual assault is a rising issue on college campuses. However, many do not realize that intimate partner violence (IPV) is also a prevalent issue among college-aged individuals. We conducted surveys with UD students and faculty to gauge their understanding of this issue. We ultimately created a document for UD students to raise awareness of IPV and bystander intervention on campus.

Problem

IPV is a prevalent issue as 21% of college students have experienced IPV by a current partner, while 32% of college students have experienced IPV by a former partner. Many bystanders fail to recognize and report abuse, as well as lack the ability to effectively intervene in these situations. While UD provides many resources on sexual assault, we found there is a need for increased awareness and information specifically about IPV and bystander intervention.

Method

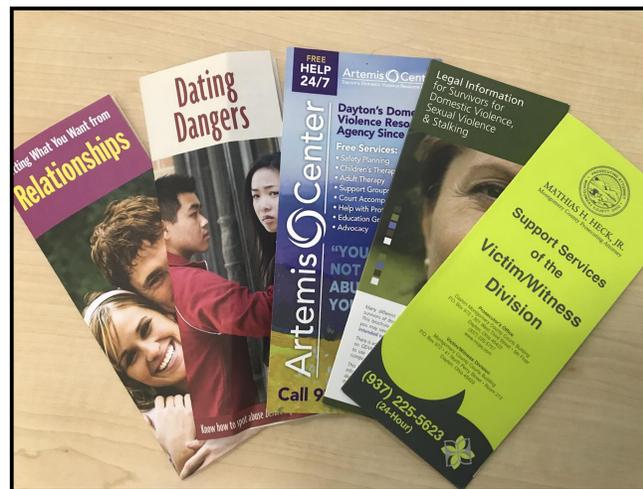
We reviewed existing resources on IPV at UD. We conducted an interview with Kristen Keen, Assistant Dean of Students for Education, Support, and Student Empowerment. Additionally, we conducted peer interviews. Finally, we examined resources at other universities to gain ideas about how UD can better inform students about this issue.

Results

There are many organizations at UD that focus on IPV including Green Dot, PAVE, and RSVP. The Counseling Center has brochures available about IPV, but they are not centrally located, are outdated, and lack information about bystander intervention. There are three confidential resources for students to talk to a professional, as well as three main ways to report IPV. The Women's Center website offers information about what IPV is and the resources available for students.

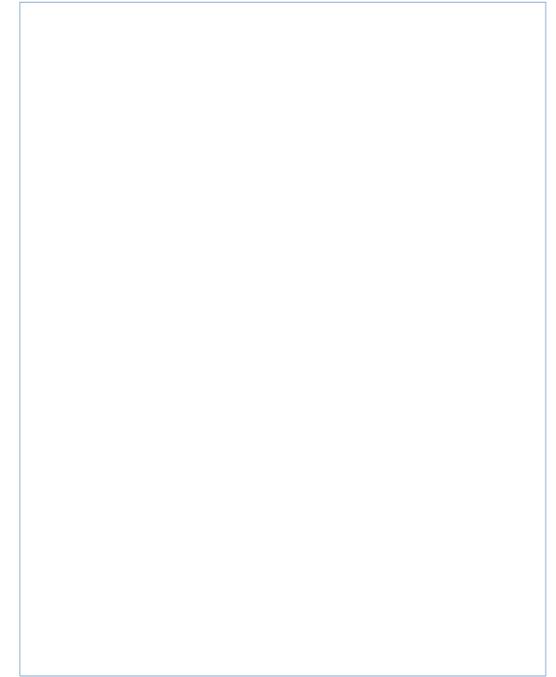
From student interviews, we learned that many students are unaware of the signs of IPV and resources on campus. Many students indicated that they knew individuals in abusive relationships and were unsure of how to effectively intervene as bystanders.

We examined the impact of existing resources for IPV on UD's campus and compared them to resources at Xavier University and the University of Michigan.



Current resources found in the UD Counseling Center

Our Document:



Recommendations

UD can take steps to raise awareness about IPV on campus as well as create ways to better educate students on how to support friends experiencing IPV. One recommendation is providing readily accessible information about IPV in public places on campus such as dining halls, academic buildings, Roesch Library, and residence halls. More recommendations include initiating an IPV Prevention Week and utilizing social media for promotions that will help reach more students.

References

"Intimate Partner Violence." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. CDC, 23 Oct. 2018.
Libertin, Anna. "Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence on College Campuses." *HAWC*, 30 Nov. 2017