National Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

What Does WVU Do?

I. Bystander Intervention Training
Bystander intervention training not only reduces a student’s likelihood to commit acts of sexual violence but it also explains how to intervene if they witness inappropriate behaviors.

Mandatory trainings // Campus marketing
“It’s On Us” commitment // Advocacy program

II. Research Center on Violence
Established in 2014, the Research Center on Violence at West Virginia University is dedicated to conducting research and publishing scholarly work to prevent and control violent behaviors. They host some of the world’s leading experts on violence; partners with regional, national and international communities; and mentors doctoral students. It’s research informs progressive policies seeking to reduce violence in West Virginia, the United States, and worldwide.

III. Clothesline Project
This powerful display honors survivors and can aid in the healing process for those who were directly affected and those who have lost someone special to violence.

IV. Campus Climate Survey
The goal of the WVU Campus Climate Survey was to collect data on students' perceptions of key social and cultural issues at WVU. Many questions on the anonymous, voluntary survey focused on students' perceptions of safety on or near campus, including their own personal safety. The results have been published in the following journals: the Journal of Trauma, Aggression, & Maltreatment; The British Journal of Criminology; Violence Against Women; The Journal of Gender-Based Violence; and Sage OPEN.

Key Findings:
- One quarter of all respondents stated they were worried about being mugged and/or robbed
- Over 30% of students reported having been verbally assaulted on campus
- 74% used one or more bystander intervention strategies
- Almost 30% of students said that the campus was unfriendly towards transgender students
- Nearly 20% of students reported experiencing some form of intimate partner violence

V. Prevention Partnerships
- West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information & Services
- Greek Life
- WVU Athletic Programs
- Student Government Association
- Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center
- West Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force