CAMPUS MEMBERSHIP IN PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Founded in 2000, Partners in Prevention strives to create healthier environments for college students in the state of Missouri. Guidance and assistance from Partners in Prevention has helped institutions develop the capacity on their campuses to address risky health behaviors through the development of strategic plans and sustained campus-community coalitions. PIP is comprehensive, influential, and effective, as documented by long-term evidence of success on both the statewide and local levels. Each year, PIP asks for feedback and evaluations from each member campus anonymously through an online survey.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Partners in Prevention members represent many areas on campus, from Administrators and Health/Prevention Specialists, to Judicial Affairs Officers and Law Enforcement Professionals. Diversity in membership encourages variety in prevention approaches which allows campuses to address specific needs. From the most recent Coalition Evaluation conducted in 2012 (n=35), over 95% of respondents felt as if they work well as a part of the PIP group, are strongly committed to PIP, and have a strong sense of pride in PIP's accomplishments. Partners in Prevention has also helped to increase the awareness of resources for alcohol and drug prevention programming (80%) and suicide prevention programming (71%) resources on individual campuses. PIP has also provided skills in designing and implementing programs (66%), building a campus/community coalition (69%) and skills in changing local policies to reduce alcohol and drug use (40%). Additionally, members also credited PIP with increasing their knowledge of the risk and protective factors for various problems and how different problems may have common risk factors and causes (69% each, respectively).

Even with these gains in knowledge, skills and awareness, the benefit reported most frequently was providing training opportunities they would not have otherwise attended, received ideas for new programs and efforts, and the financial support from PIP's various grants. Some of the areas of PIP that were frequently reported as 'somewhat satisfying' by PIP members included the time demands for traveling, the PIP website, and training topics available. These three topics were taken under consideration, and resulted in more conference calls (instead of in-person meetings), the unveiling of a new website (in progress), and additional input on topics to be covered.

EVALUATION

PIP works to provide opportunities for feedback and constructive ideas for improvement, in an attempt to serve our campuses to the best of our abilities. Located at pip.missouri.edu/research/ you will find our current improvement effort. We would appreciate any feedback you would like to offer concerning the data briefs you have been receiving, including possible future topics, improvements on dissemination, and critiques of past content. This link will be an ongoing and open, so feel free to provide feedback at any time. As always, PIP would like to become your source of information about Missouri college student health behaviors. To learn more about PIP, please visit our website at http://pip.missouri.edu or contact Joan Masters, PIP Senior Coordinator, by email at mastersj@missouri.edu or by phone at 573-884-7551.

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