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PIRC Spring 2020 Newsletter

Prevention Innovations Research Center

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news & research from the



Research Center

Ending Sexual and Relationship
Violence and Stalking

Spring 2020

Message from the Directors

Dear Friends,

We hope you, your families and colleagues are healthy and safe during this unprecedented time in the world. While we recognize Sexual Assault Awareness month, we want to extend our thanks and appreciation to essential workers and all of those individuals who are supporting their loved ones, neighbors, coworkers, students, peers and community members as they struggle to access basic needs for healthcare, wellness, food, safety, shelter, learning and more. We are particularly grateful to crisis center advocates, first responders and SANE nurses who provide support to survivors and their families. In New Hampshire, we are fortunate to have a strong State Domestic and Sexual Assault Coalition and 13 crisis centers located throughout our state.

Our PIRC fellows are organizing a virtual blog series to share their research and practice work that we will roll out over the next few weeks. We are humbled and inspired by the dedication and innovation of our practitioner and research colleagues around the world as they find creative ways to meet the needs of victims and their supporters. At PIRC we are dedicated to training the next generation of practitioners and researchers. One way we work towards this mission is through the PIRC intern program. Our 2019-20 amazing PIRC interns were highlighted in our <u>Fall newsletter</u>. We are proud and thankful that our interns continued to collaborate with us from afar

following the university transition to remote learning in March. The PIRC interns will be presenting a synopsis of their research findings and community work that they prepared for the UNH Undergraduate Research Conference on May 7th. We are proud of their efforts and wish them all the best as they pursue new endeavors.

At Prevention innovations, we are providing strategic planning and assessment technical assistance to college and university campuses throughout the US. We are also continuing our efforts to administer our prevention and response safety app, uSafeUS®, working with our amazing campus partners as they continue supporting their students despite the physical isolation. We are developing uSafeHS and looking forward to piloting the app in high schools in the fall. We continue to submit research proposals to fund our prevention and response projects and we are partnering with our colleagues at Soteria Solutions to better understand how the current COVID-19 shelter in place, social distancing and remote learning are shifting prevention and response needs.

While we feel incredibly fortunate to be part of an amazing community of practitioners and researchers it is particularly reassuring during these times as we continue our collective work to support survivors and end all forms of sexual violence.

Be well and safe,

Jane and Sharyn



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

thank you for your continued support



We at PIRC would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our colleagues and community partners for their outstanding efforts and continued support during these trying times. We know that vulnerable populations are at heightened risk as the world fights against COVID-19, and we want to offer our gratitude to those who remain dedicated to creating safe environments for all.

APRIL IS: Sexual Assault **Awareness Month**

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. SAAM is an opportunity to raise awareness about sexual harassment, assault, and abuse and educate communities about prevention. This year, things are a bit different, but we continue to show our support for this important event. #SAAM advocacy is taking place on social media. Please join us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as we support survivors and promote awareness.









@PreventionInnovationsUNH

Mary Mayhew Practitioner Award Nominations



The Mary Mayhew Practitioner Award recognizes New Hampshire individuals for their vision and leadership in ending gender-based violence, including sexual and relationship violence and stalking. This award is named in honor of Mary Mayhew, one of the five founders of the Prevention Innovations Research Center. Mary devoted her professional career and personal life to working on issues directly related to violence against women. Her remarkable contributions to the field are numerous, most notably through her outstanding leadership as Director of the Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP) located on the UNH campus and as Executive Director of Starting Point: Services for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence. We are proud to recognize Mary's dedication, compassion, and legacy of service with this award.

The Mary Mayhew Practitioner Award is presented to an individual who has:

- Advanced the field through evidence-based practice
- Improved the prevention and response of systems to gender-based violence, including sexual and relationship violence and stalking
- Increased public awareness and knowledge about the incidence, causes and contributing factors, and nature of sexual and relationship violence and stalking
- An understanding of the effects of trauma on victims
- The ability to address existing problems and gaps in prevention, services or other responses with innovative trauma-informed solutions
- An understanding of gender-based violence, including sexual and relationship violence and stalking as social justice issues

For further details and a nomination form, click here. Nominations due by June

1, 2020.

Stay Tuned....



Prepare and Protect: How to Help Your Student Stay Safe on Campus

The Wildcat Wisdom Online webinar hosted by PIRC co-directors Jane Stapleton and Sharyn Potter has been postponed. This informative presentation will provide valuable information on how to keep your student safe on campus. We will let you know when a new date for the webinar has been selected.



The **(603) Challenge** is the University of New Hampshire's online fundraising event which allows supporters to donate to the program of their choice. Due to COVID-19, this year's **(603) Challenge** has been postponed. We at Prevention Innovations Research Center are grateful for the generous donations that we have received in the past during this event and we will be sure to let you know when the **(603) Challenge** has been rescheduled.

PIRC Publications

PIRC Researchers Conduct Groundbreaking Studies on Community College Populations

In August of 2019, PIRC researchers Sharyn Potter, Elizabeth Moschella, and Delilah Smith completed a three-year study which developed and evaluated sexual violence prevention and response strategies at community and nonresidential colleges. To date, most research has been dedicated to understanding how to prevent and address the aftermath of sexual assault on traditional four-year college and university campuses in the United States. Much less scholarly attention has been paid to two-year institutions, commonly known as community colleges. Three recently published papers by PIRC researchers and fellows illuminate the challenges community college administrators face in their efforts to support their students from all forms of sexual violence (sexual assault and harassment, dating violence, and stalking). In early April, a paper titled "Sexual Assault Prevalence and Community College Students: Challenges and Promising Practices," authored by PIRC staff and fellows Nicky Fox and Nora Draper, was published in Health Education & Behavior. In mid-February, PIRC staff Elizabeth Moschella, Sharyn Potter, and Mary Moynihan's paper, "Disclosure of Sexual Violence Victimization and Anticipated Social Reactions among Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community College Students", was published in the Journal of Bisexuality. The research

findings indicate that almost two-thirds (63.8%) of community college students who identify as bisexual reported victimization at higher rates than students who identified as lesbian, gay, and heterosexual and were significantly more likely to disclose victimization. Another paper on sexual violence among lesbian, gay, and bisexual community college students, titled "Sexual Violence among LGBQ Community College Students: A Comparison with their Heterosexual Peers", was published in early January in the Community College Journal of Research and Practice. We are grateful to all of our study participants who shared their challenges and hope to continue our work partnering with community college staff and faculty to reduce and prevent all forms of sexual violence.

PIRC Spotlight

LB Klein, MSW, MPA



PREVENTION INNOVATIONS RESEARCH CENTER

#FellowFriday PREVENTIONS



LB Klein, MSW, MPA, has dedicated her research and practice to ending gender-based violence, supporting survivors, and advancing social justice. She is Director of Trainer Development and a Lead Trainer for the Bringing in the Bystander® Prevention Program and a Prevention Innovations Research Center Fellow at the University of New Hampshire.

LB is also a PhD candidate, Injury and Violence Prevention Fellow, and adjunct faculty member in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work. Her research focuses on gender-based violence prevention, intervention, and policy with dissertation research that focuses on sexual and relationship violence and LGBTQ+ college students and implications for prevention. LB's research has been published in venues such as the Journal of American College Health; Trauma, Violence, and Abuse; Journal of Interpersonal Violence; and Social Work.

LB has served as a consultant and trainer for organizations and coalitions nationally and internationally through Prevention Innovations Research Center, Soteria Solutions, and her consulting partnership, Catalytical Consulting LLC. She is a co-founder and research committee member of Campus Advocates & Prevention Professionals Association

(CAPPA) and serves on the state steering committee of the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence's CDC DELTA implementation. She holds a BA and MSW from Washington University in St. Louis, an MPA from the University of Colorado Denver's Program on Gender-Based Violence, and a graduate certificate in LGBT health from Drexel University. You can follow her work on Linkedin (https://www.linkedin.com/in/laurenlbklein), ResearchGate (https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Lb Klein2), and Twitter (https://twitter.com/LB Klein).

uSafeUS® and Bringing in the Bystander®



No matter where college students are living and learning, uSafeUS can help them to protect themselves and their friends against sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking. In the wake of the changes brought about by COVID-19, it is our aim above all to support our campus partners with flexible options for promotion and implementation of uSafeUS. We are doing this by:

- Honoring Sexual Assault Awareness Month with a friendly Campus Partner
 Challenge, where our partners can earn points for their schools by promoting uSafeUS via social media, email, or virtual classes.
- Taking our Spring 2020 Partner Meeting virtual to help our partners incorporate uSafeUS into upcoming prevention programming, however it may look.
- Collecting admin and student data to inform Version 5 of the uSafeUS app, which will be launching this summer.

Each college campus is so much more than just its buildings. We are proud to support the communities that are helping our students through this challenging time.



During these unsettling times, Soteria Solutions, PIRC's non-profit spin-off which distributes Bringing in the Bystander®, is deeply committed to the welfare of our partners. We've been writing weekly blogs to explore questions about BITB implementation in this unprecedented time. Check here to read and comment on the blogs.

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Prevention Innovations Research Center

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