Phi Gamma Delta Recognized For Alcohol Education Program

ARLINGTON, Virginia – August 30, 2012 – Health Communications, Inc. (HCI), the providers of the TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) Program, is pleased to announce that the international Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta based in Lexington, Kentucky has been awarded the 2012 TIPS Award of Excellence. This is an award bestowed by Health Communication’s President & CEO, Adam Chafetz, and is chosen by an internal committee based on both volume of students certified and feedback from TIPS Trainers and student participants. There were nine (9) colleges and universities that received the award in 2012, but Phi Gamma Delta was the only fraternity to receive the award. According to Mr. Chafetz, “Phi Gamma Delta actively engages their brothers to prevent the misuse of alcohol. TIPS is proud to be one of many approaches that they use.”

Since implementing the TIPS for the University program in 2000, Phi Gamma Delta has certified thousands of brothers across the nation. Each year, Phi Gamma Delta hosts a closed TIPS Train-the-Trainer Workshop to certify their new consultants as TIPS trainers. In turn, these consultants provide TIPS for University classroom sessions at their 144 chapters across North America. As a result, Phi Gamma Delta members are able to identify someone who is misusing alcohol and, more importantly, how to effectively and confidently step-in to prevent that fellow student from hurting themselves or someone else. Rob Caudill, Phi Gamma Delta’s Director of Education comments, “Our goal is to reduce the incidence of abuse and misuse of alcohol among our brothers, likewise reducing the negative consequences for our brothers, our Fraternity, and the campus community. TIPS for the University is a valuable tool in achieving this. TIPS not only educates students, but affirming a students’ power to influence his peers and make a positive change.”

TIPS for the University is a two-hour program that helps students make sound choices when faced with difficult decisions about alcohol use. Working together with other students and administrators at their college or university, students address drinking behaviors specific to their school and develop intervention techniques appropriate to their campus. All sessions are taught by certified TIPS trainers, using video and printed materials to facilitate discussion of the course content. TIPS for the University provides students with the knowledge and confidence necessary to reduce high-risk drinking behavior among their peers. More than 1,200 campuses nationwide have implemented TIPS for the University. In addition, the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP), a project of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), has recently recognized the TIPS for the University training program by awarding high marks for both the quality and effectiveness of the program. For more information, you can visit www.tipsuniversity.org.

About Health Communications, Inc.
Health Communications, Inc. (HCI) was founded in 1982 by Dr. Morris Chafetz, founding director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Located in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, HCI is a nationally recognized expert in the field of alcohol training. Its flagship program, TIPS, was the first of its kind and continues to set industry standards for this type of training. Numerous public officials and government agencies have recognized and endorsed TIPS training as life-saving and critical to the progress made in reducing alcohol-related injuries and deaths. More information can be found at www.gettips.com.

About Phi Gamma Delta
The Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta, also known as Fiji or Phi Gam, has 122 chapters and 22 colonies at the foremost colleges and universities of the United States and Canada. Phi Gamma Delta is dedicated to developing men of character within the academic setting, with the aim that they will become fully contributing members of society. In pursuit of this mission, the Fraternity promotes five core values: friendship, knowledge, service, morality, and excellence. More information can be found at www.phigam.org.