CASE STUDY
Millikin University

Overview

Millikin University was committed to training all of its incoming freshmen in the TIPS for the University program. The long-term goal was to educate and hold accountable all students for alcohol-related behavior. Initially implemented for approximately 300 first-year students during orientation, TIPS is now required for all incoming freshman.

Implementing TIPS

Millikin administrators decided TIPS would be more successful if upper-class students, who serve as orientation leaders, led the program. Millikin hosted a closed TIPS Train-the-Trainer workshop where over 60 upper-class orientation leaders were certified as TIPS trainers. Within six month, Millikin TIPS trainers trained 500 first-year students. By December of the following year, 1,250 had participated in a TIPS session and within three years close to 2,000 students completed the TIPS program. Millikin is now providing TIPS training to every first-year student. Each August, Millikin hosts a closed Train-the-Trainer workshop to certify new upper-class orientation leaders and to recertify existing leaders.

Funding the Program

Millikin receives generous donations from local establishments, landlords whose tenants are Millikin students, and an Anheuser-Busch wholesaler. Millikin proactively approaches the community to receive the funding needed to implement TIPS.

The Impact of TIPS Training

Millikin University has experienced significant results and benefits. Most impressive is the 55% reduction in disciplinary referrals related to alcohol misuse by students.

Other impressive results include:

• 93% of students say that, after receiving TIPS training, they would feel comfortable intervening with a peer who was intoxicated.
• 76% of students who participated in the training feel TIPS training should be mandatory for all students.
• 98% of students agree that TIPS accomplishes its goal of training people to intervene in situations involving the misuse of alcohol.

Conclusion

Millikin University has reached its goal of training 100% of its student population. The university intends to focus on training staff and faculty to create a common language and knowledge set concerning alcohol use across campus. In addition, they are exploring ways to train the servers and sellers of alcohol in the surrounding community.

For more information about Millikin University’s experience and success, email univ@gettips.com.