Meeting called to order at 8:04am.

Items Discussed:

Budget
We have $3,000 to spend from last year.
$1,000 is allocated for bystander intervention video contest awards.
$1,000 is allocated for Step UP Bystander Intervention training in February (approved at last meeting).

Proposals for final $1,000:
• Video contest prize money ($600)
• Bystander Intervention bracelets ($200)
• Sexual Assault Investigation Training ($1,000) – collaborative training for officers, community orgs, and campus officials in investigation processes that increase likelihood of prosecution. Last year Ray Mayda (sp?) donated his entire fee to Family Advocates. Vickie spoke on how helpful this training was for her as a student and victim advocate.
• Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events ($1,000)
• Peer education group training and program materials ($1,000)
• Transfer funds to Jessi’s budget to be allocated to various programs ($1,000)

Discussion:
Marc and Kendal both expressed concerns over allocating this money for the Sexual Assault Investigation Training (as was also expressed at last meeting). The concern is that this money wouldn’t directly benefit students.

Marc specifically would like to see the money put towards prevention (such as bystander intervention training) rather than victim response. He mentioned that students in the past had advocated for sexual assault and bystander intervention training for faculty/staff, and suggested that money could go towards this.

Jessi shared that the university (and UW System) is currently looking into universal education for students, faculty and staff on alcohol, drugs, sexual assault, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention through an online program called CampusClarity. It may or may not be appropriate for this council to allocate their funds for this program (as HR will likely cover employee training), and this education is a federal requirement.

Kendal and Shana expressed interest in spending the money on a peer education group that would educate fellow students on the topics of alcohol, sexual assault, and bystander intervention.

Final Decision:
Bryce moved to transfer the $1,000 to Jessi’s budget to be spent on: Sexual Assault Awareness Month events, the development of a peer education program, and the Bystander Intervention Video Contest. All were in favor of this motion. Scott will check with Rob to make sure that this is an allowable action with the budget.

Step UP Training
Jessi shared information regarding the Step UP training in February:
• Training will be 4 hours total: Webinar is a 2-hour “train-the-trainer” program, followed by Jessi leading 2 hours of debriefing and practicing
• Price: $1,000 (not including snacks/meal, which we will provide)

Discussion:
Group decided that 4-8pm or 5-9pm on a Tuesday evening would probably work best for students (an idea supported by Kendal and Shana). Jessi will contact Step UP again and schedule the webinar and book a location.

UW-Platteville Confessions Post
Scott made clear that, because the post is anonymous, he can only make an educated guess as to who the poster was. He also made clear that he cannot share any information that was gathered during the investigation, as this would be a violation of FERPA. However, he wanted the group to know that, if he has guessed correctly, the investigation in question was carried out to the fullest extent that it could be. That said, this person has a right to be upset with the outcome of the investigation. But he hopes that the members of the council can help in debunking the myth that our university or investigators were negligible, or that they didn’t do their jobs to the fullest extent.

Marc pointed out that, for victims, it is very important that we separate the justice process from the recovery process. No matter the judicial outcome, the person still needs to have support and validation and recovery resources.

Scott agreed, and pointed out that this validation cannot come from investigators. Victims require other resources, such as counseling services and Family Advocates – which is exactly why we take a collaborative approach to victim support/advocacy.

The group also stressed the importance of continuing to talk about these issues and have real conversations with people. Vickie thought it might be a good idea for a quick response to situations like this in the future – hosting a panel or a forum to get people talking and thinking about it while it’s a current topic on campus.

Next Meeting
Thursday, Dec. 18th at 8am in the University Counseling Services Conference Room.
A topic on deck for this meeting: What do we want to do as a group now that Jessi is in her position? Should SAAC branch out from programing and get into policy work?

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessi Ensenberger