

## **20:1 BYSTANDER INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

The 20:1 Bystander Intervention Program for Students is a sister program to the original 20:1 Sexual Assault Prevention Program and derives from the Third Tier: The Bystander Program. 20:1 acknowledges the wide range of areas of interpersonal violence that is prevalent on college campuses, and as a result, this program expands beyond sexual assault prevention, offering education on a variety of topics around interpersonal violence prevention.

The Third Tier of the original 20:1 Sexual Assault Prevention Program (The Bystander-Based Program) was designed to get fraternity men more socially aware and willing to act to protect others. This tier emerged from comments of participants who felt they had become more aware of the problem of sexual assault and prevention, but wanted to learn how to be more helpful and learn about what to do when they witnessed behaviors that required intervention. Initially, this was not the focus of 20:1 as the primary objective was to help students understand sexual assault, prevention and consent through increasing victim empathy and to be able to utilize consent in practical application. As the campus community has increasingly embraced the 20:1 program, it has become possible and necessary to add this next step. In focus groups with both fraternity men and male athletes, men consistently stated they had witnessed behaviors that they felt were leading towards sexual assaults, but were not taught the intervention tools by the University. Male groups embraced the opportunity to learn a healthy way to intervene on behalf of others in order to prevent sexual violence.

The new Bystander Intervention Program for all students functions as a forum for students to learn about sexual assault prevention, domestic violence, hate crimes/bullying, hazing and other incidents of potential situations of interpersonal violence where there might be opportunity for bystander intervention. A critical part of this new program focuses on what influences the decision making process as it relates to student's individual experiences and perspectives. The program utilizes an interactive format with the fundamental purpose of engaging the audiences in meaningful dialogue.