By: Darcy Greder, Associate Dean, IWU.

The implementation of the EUDL (Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws) Grant is a definite culture change on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan University. The implementation of this grant initially created quite a “buzz” on campus amongst students. Illinois Wesleyan does not have police officers on staff. Because our security officers do not have police powers, our students have developed a sense of impunity as it related to underage drinking and legal consequences. As a result, the EUDL Grant created a significant cultural change for our students. The University saw this grant as an opportunity to educate and to help students understand that this is not a punitive initiative as much as it is an initiative to be proactive in addressing underage drinking. The first weekend that the grant was enforced the Dean of Student’s had her office window broken. Several articles appeared in the school newspaper (The Argus) surrounding the grant. Articles appeared in the January 29th, February 5th and February 12th editions of The Argus.

Now that the grant has been in place for several months, there has been a sharp change in the reactions and perceptions of IWU students regarding policing efforts. Initially students were upset with how the policing efforts were being enforced. Associate Dean Darcy L. Greder met with the Bloomington Police Department in an effort to discuss enforcement issues and concerns from the students’ perspective. This meeting was very successful and student complaints have stopped. Ordinance violations however continue to be written. Since the implementation of this grant there have been a total of 44 ordinance violations written.

Some of the positives that have resulted form this grant include:

-There has been only one known alcohol poisoning rescue run since this grant has been implemented.

-There has been a reduction in reported campus crimes since the grant has been implemented.

-Anecdotally some students have expressed appreciation for the extra police patrols as they feel safer on campus. Other students have expressed that the grant is “working” as they and their friends have either reduced their consumption or have chosen not to drink in an effort to avoid an underage drinking ticket.

Finally, this grant has helped build a bridge between the Bloomington Police Department and Illinois Wesleyan University. Although BPD has always provided good response to emergencies on campus and calls for back-up, their knowledge of buildings and grounds has been cursory, at best. Through the grant, BPD is learning the campus buildings and ground, our students and Security personnel. The relationship between the University is becoming stronger as collaboration between these two entities continues to develop.
BNCCC and Partner Successes

- Heartland Community College held student focused events near the Heartland Café during National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. About 130 students took a knowledge quiz regarding alcohol serving sizes, binge drinking and alcohol poisoning symptoms.
- Illinois State University formed a Student Advisory Board and have met 3 times this semester.
- Illinois Wesleyan University is re-applying for the EUDL Grant for FY11. Current EUDL efforts will be increased over the next few weeks due to extra budget funds.
- Heartland Community College began a monthly health promotion event with health information at the café or near the library.
- Illinois State University received approval to offer Alcohol Wise to all new students.
- Illinois Wesleyan University staff visited Bradley University at the end of April to get trained on the clicker system that was purchased.
- Heartland Community College created a display to show during the Faculty Best Practice explaining the BNCCC, the alcohol prevention services and student health promotion services they are offering.
- Illinois State University received the NCAA grant to support late night activities.
- Illinois Wesleyan University has had two Alcohol Education program requests by two fraternities.
- Heartland Community College recruited three new faculty members on the task force.
- Illinois State University sponsored John Underwood, alcohol & performance speaker, 550 students attended.
- Illinois Wesleyan University is currently planning a student forum for the fall of 2010.
- Heartland Community College employs ongoing recruitment for peer mentors to help promote healthy behavior choices.
- All four institutions administered the CORE and Environmental surveys.
- Heartland Community College collaborated with community partners at OSF St. Francis for eating disorders, Stepping Stones for sexual assault, and McLean county Health Department for sexual health.
- Illinois State University is working on alcohol policy survey for chairpersons and alcohol knowledge survey for faculty.
- BNCCC members presented at both the NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and the Illinois Higher Education Center conferences.
- Illinois State University task force members presented to Year One mini-symposium and to Academic Senate on task force activities.
ISU Police See Results from EUDL Grant

By: Sgt. Sharon Sweeney, ISU PD

The Illinois State University Police Department, through the Illinois Department of Human Services Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws FY10 grant, commenced on November 1, 2009 and continues to April 30, 2010. The University has approximately 20,000 students, with 6000 living on campus. The alcohol enforcement patrols are enhanced Thursday-Saturday nights from 9 pm to 3 am. The campus patrols include residence hall foot patrols, bicycle and vehicle patrols. There have been approximately 100 alcohol violations in the first 5 months of the grant, in which the number of alcohol violations doubled from the first quarter to the second quarter of the grant period. In addition to the numerous alcohol violations, the grant officers have had several arrests for cannabis violations, DUI, and other traffic offenses. The grant has received publicity around campus from area newspapers and TV stations, alcohol presentations to fraternities and sororities, and interviews from students for various class projects. The volunteers from the Students on Patrol (STOP) program have provided valuable assistance to the grant officers.

Illinois State’s Online Reporting

The Illinois State University (ISU) office of Community Rights & Responsibilities (CR&R) unit of the Dean of Students Office feels that it is important to provide for the comprehensive education of students at Illinois State University. ISU is seeking to address an existing gap in their process. ISU recognized that there was not a clear method for community members and others to submit information or concerns to ISU about our students or incidents. So, in transitioning to a new database and processing system, they sought to fill that gap. By creating this form, ISU hopes to improve the communication and the opportunity to address concerning behavior(s) within the community whether through a letter, conversation, and/or conflict resolution processes.

Individuals need only to click on a link at https://ilstu-jams.symplicity.com/public_report to provide their information, relevant details they have about the individual(s) involved, the location, and facts about the incident. The form will then auto-submit to ISU’s conduct system, alerting a CR&R staff member to the submission. A case manager will then be assigned to address the incident, and the complainant may be contacted for follow-up.
BNCCC Member Spotlight: Bob Rogers

The BNCCC is as strong as its members and looking at Bob Rogers you see a great example of our strength. Bob is one of the six founding members of the BNCCC and, over the past five years, has added to the group in countless ways. Bob heads up the Alcohol Task Force at Illinois Wesleyan University, sits on the working group to address over-service in the social host environment, presents on the efforts of the BNCCC at national and state conferences, and overall is one of the most welcoming personalities of the BNCCC.

Bob is a counselor at Illinois Wesleyan University and sees himself as part of the whole. He suggests he is just one voice working together to accomplish a common vision. This view is the reason the BNCCC was formed and Bob is deserving of credit for his part in the BNCCC beginnings and continued success. From the start, Bob suggests there was a desire across institutions to work together and share resources. Because of this shared desire and Bob’s notable desire to forge relationships and build rapport the capacity of the BNCCC has enlarged and expanded to include over 40 members from across the community.

Talking with Bob, you sense he is empathic and understanding. Perhaps it comes from his focus. He attributes both his most personal and professional satisfaction to his interaction with kids. According to Bob, kids help put things in perspective. They let you know that you will have good days and bad days and if you go with the flow it will be alright.

This focus continues in Bob’s recreational time. He is married and has three children. If you have an opportunity to talk with Bob, you will quickly learn how much he values his family. Most of his free time is spent with them playing sports (he especially likes baseball and softball), fishing, hiking, and biking.

When Bob was asked if there is anything he would like to share related to the BNCCC or otherwise he added, “The BNCCC is made up of a lot of people that have a passion for this type of work and that is why the group is so effective. Growing up, my Mom had a quote on her refrigerator that describe the members of the BCCCC: ‘It’s not what you have that makes you rich, it is who you are’ and ‘It is nice to be important but it is more important to be nice.’”
Heartland Community College has a new Prevention Specialist this year, Jill Asher Mohr! Jill started in her new position just nine months ago when she hit the ground running to take on the responsibility of coordinating Heartland’s Alcohol Task Force and participating in the BNCCC. Although, new to the Prevention Specialist role Jill has been a Health Educator for over 20 years and also serves as a adjunct health faculty at Heartland and an Exercise Physiologist in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center.

In her role as the Prevention Specialist Jill tries to bring alcohol, drugs, and violence issues as well as their consequences out in the open to discuss and find alternative coping skills and alternative social avenues for students and community members. Through her work with the BNCCC Jill strives to accomplish the development of a Community Standards Guide for the Bloomington Normal Community and area college students and transition those standards into the area high schools. Along with the BNCCC Jill through her work at Heartland continues to bring evidence based methods of alcohol prevention to our community.

When asked what Jill likes to do in her free time, she laughingly asks, “What free time!” Between her busy professional life, three children, a husband and a farm, Jill still finds time to hike, bike, and spend time with her friends and family! Being a mom is the most personally satisfying experience for her. Professionally, Jill feels that she has been lucky to have jobs that have put her in the position to interact with a variety of people ranging from the young to the old. She has learned from wise and seasoned participants in cardiac rehab and from the young and spirited college students. Working with these diverse populations through her various jobs has been professionally satisfying.
Measuring Illinois High School Students’ Substance Use

By: Alan Markwood, Prevention Projects Coordinator, Chestnut Health Systems

Groups that attempt to address alcohol or other drug prevention among college students, as BNCCC does, often wonder the extent to which students arrive as Freshmen with drinking or other drug use habits already established. Data is available to help answer that question, at least as it applies to students from Illinois communities. The Illinois Youth Survey provides measures of alcohol and other drug use in the state every two years.

The Bureau of Community-Based and Primary Prevention in the Illinois Department of Human Services sponsors the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) so that any school in the state can participate in the biennial survey at no cost. Each participating school can receive its own results, and the results of multiple schools can be combined for counties or other geographic areas, as well as the state as a whole. A school’s results are not released unless the school chooses to do so, but schools are encouraged to share key results with community prevention groups and others concerned with the issues covered by the survey.

The eight sections of the survey include basic demographics, community (norms and involvement), drug use, physical/other injury, individual/peer, nutrition/fitness, school, and family. A number of problem behaviors in addition to substance use are covered, as are a number of key risk or protective factors. Although surveys for 6th grade, 8th grade, and high school (10th and 12th grade) all have these sections, the number of questions increases as one looks at the 6th grade, 8th grade, and high school forms. Some of the increase is due to questions becoming relevant at the older ages, as well as the greater reading skills of older teens allowing them to cover more ground in a one-period, 45 minute survey.

The survey is explicitly anonymous, in order to encourage students to be honest in their responses. Though not all are honest, we try to screen out some of the more clearly false results and find this usually is the case with only a few percent of the responses. The patterns of the results suggest some stability and validity, in addition to the validity studies that have been carried out on similar surveys, some of which were the source of some items on the IYS. Some IYS questions come from a similar national study, called “Monitoring the Future” or a slightly different but still analogous national survey called the “Youth Risk Behavior Survey.” Other items were created in Illinois in response to the needs of various interested groups, from educators to government or local agency staff.

For more information about the Illinois Youth Survey, including 2008 state results, visit www.illinoisyouthsurvey.org. The 2010 survey is underway, so new county level results should be available this summer and a new state report will be available early in 2011.
Hook, Line and Sinker

Interested in our work or group? Would you like to learn more about the BNCCC and our goals and strategies? We would enjoy talking with you! All our members are a valued part of our team approach. We are committed to our mission and improving the health and safety of all Bloomington Normal residents.

BNCCC Partners

Illinois State University
Illinois Wesleyan University
Lincoln College Normal
Heartland Community College
Normal Police Department
Bloomington Police Department
McLean County Sheriff’s Department
Project Oz
Town of Normal
City of Bloomington
Bloomington Liquor Commission
McLean County Coroner
Chestnut Health Systems
Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center
OSF St. Joseph Hospital
ISU Student Government Association
ISU Inter Fraternity Council
Meredith’s Properties
Neighbors Association of Normal

Bloomington Normal Community Campus Committee
c/o Chestnut Health Systems
448 Wylie Dr.
Normal, Ill 61761

Phone: 309-451-7816

www.bnccc.org
BNCCC
C/O Chestnut Health Systems
448 Wylie Drive
Normal, IL 61761