

Collegiate Recovery Support Network

Overview

The goal of implementing collegiate recovery support programs is to offer the chance for students in recovery from substance use to experience the opportunities that higher education offers both in the college environment, and after by providing support, positive community connections, to prevent a return to substance use and promote successful academic performance.

Collegiate Recovery Support project

This project is focused on developing Collegiate Recovery Support Programs in educational institutions statewide, using the Harm Reduction approach that combines training on best practices, technical and program development assistance for individuals of Institution of Higher Education (IHEs), development of campus/community recovery capital, facilitated network development to advance skills, share resources, and build sustainable connections.

Approach

To identify and examine elements that are key to a successful transition to higher education for individuals in recovery, the Washington State University (WSU) evaluation team uses multiple data sources, including review of data/findings from the 2020-2021 evaluation activities related to the transition of individuals in recovery from various programs to the college/university setting, and research findings from Dr. Cleveland's research study, *Understanding Academic Support Needs and Barriers for Youth in Recovery During the Transition to College*.

Core elements include:

- Develop campus and community recovery capital (social, physical, human, and cultural) to systematically provide sustainable individual and community recovery assets and supports. Housed within an IHE that confers academic degrees (e.g., associates, bachelors, masters, and/or doctorate degrees). Have
- paid, qualified, trained, ethical, and dedicated IHE professional staff, who support and provide services to students in recovery, and work in a collaborative and integrated manner with individuals, who provide peer support within the campus and community setting.
- Have qualified, ethical, and dedicated individuals, who are peer supports to students in recovery, involved in recovery support service provision and work in a collaborative and integrated manner with IHE professional staff in campus and community settings.
- Through the development of recovery capital, provide a variety of recovery support services to assist students in reducing harms and maintaining their recovery.
- Students, who are in recovery from substance use disorder, are the primary focus within the CRPs, communities, and support services. Recovering students are at the core of thriving Collegiate Recovery Support services.
- If appropriate to a specific campus, have a dedicated physical space for students in recovery to gather and offer peer support to one another.

Current program locations

- Gonzaga University
- Green River College
- Washington State University
- Whitman College
- Renton Technical College
- Skagit Valley College (2 sites)

Budget

The total budget for the Collegiate Recovery Support Project includes SABG funds in the amount of \$300,000 (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022) and COVID Enhancement dollars in the amount of \$800,000 (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023). Funding for this project spans over two fiscal years, ending in 2023.

Technical support provided by

Washington State University (WSU)

Oversight

The DBHR Program Manager has oversight over the Collegiate Recovery Support Project.

More information

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