



Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education Collaboration to Address Campus Sexual Assault

In February 2015, the Presidents of ten PCHE colleges and universities (*Carlow University; Carnegie Mellon University; Chatham University; Community College of Allegheny County; Duquesne University; La Roche College; Point Park University; Robert Morris University; Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; University of Pittsburgh*) declared **campus sexual assault to be a priority** across Pittsburgh's campuses.

Key stakeholders across multiple sectors were assembled to author the ***Allegheny County and City of Pittsburgh Campus Sexual Assault Collaborative Practices*** document. All ten PCHE presidents signed and supported implementation of these best practices.

Timeline of subsequent activities:

- In May 2015, the **Department of Education Office of Civil Rights holds a Title IX Training** at University of Pittsburgh for the region. External stakeholders are invited to participate including members of the foundation community, District Attorney's office, city police detectives, victim advocacy leaders and forensic nursing leaders.
- In Spring of 2015, PCHE's Executive Director, Karina Chavez, began convening Title IX coordinators on a quarterly basis to review and coordinate policy, best practices and training.
- In January 2016, Duquesne University, led by Chief of Police, Tom Hart, hosted a **'Sexual Assault Investigator Training for Initial Responders'** for PCHE public safety officers and regional police officers. Over 110 first responders attended the training.
- In January 2016, the first **SA Regional Steering Committee** was assembled to coordinate and guide efforts in prevention, response and investigation of campus sexual assault. The SA Regional Steering Committee continues to meet quarterly to review ongoing priorities and assess progress.
- In March 2016, the PCHE steering committee identifies "priorities" via a survey to refer on to Title IX coordinators for discussion.
- In March 2016, Holly Hippensteel, Title IX Coordinator at Carnegie Mellon University, Elizabeth Rosemeyer, Title IX Coordinator at Point Park University and Katie Pope, Title IX Coordinator at University of Pittsburgh presented their Title IX colleagues an overview of **campus climate surveys**, methodology, planning and open discussion.

Carlow University • Carnegie Mellon University • Chatham University • Community College of Allegheny County • Duquesne University • La Roche College • Point Park University • Robert Morris University • Pittsburgh Theological Seminary • University of Pittsburgh



- In August 2016, our ten member institutions are sponsored an all-day Title IX Training hosted by Robert Morris University covering **advanced Title IX topics** such as Informal Resolutions, Disclosure of Information, current trends and Title IX law, Investigator vs. Panel hearing models and more.
- In November 2016, PCHE schools partnered with FISA Foundation and Heinz Endowments to screen **'Audrie + Daisy'** and host a panel discussion.
- In April 2017, over 100 staff from across all ten PCHE schools participated in a three-day **Green Dot bystander intervention program** training. Each university will develop its own plan for implementing the model on their campuses beginning in school year 2017-18. Additionally, there will be collaboration and peer learning across campuses in implementation and evaluation. This is the first time an entire community, across multiple universities, has committed to collaborative adoption of this best practice prevention model.
- In August 2017, Presidents of **Carlow University, Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, Community College of Allegheny County, Duquesne University, La Roche College, Point Park University, Robert Morris University and University of Pittsburgh** all participated in a film project about campus sexual assault as a leadership issue.
See: www.southwestpasaysnomore.org/university-presidents



Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh Campus Sexual Assault Collaborative Practices

Allegheny County and the city of Pittsburgh are committed to the safety and well-being of our higher education students in the area of sexual assault. Key stakeholders within the city of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County comprised of the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, the forensic and medical community, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, the foundation community and leaders and staff from the ten PCHE institutions have come together as partners, endorsing the following collaborative practices:

- Establishing a **regional steering committee** that meets at least four times a year for the first year, then twice a year then moves to annually or as needed. The steering committee would consist of representatives from the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, forensic experts including SANE nurses, the Medical Examiner's Office, PAAR, the foundation community and PCHE. Other community based support and advocacy groups can be added as needed. The purpose of the committee would be to review current practices, suggest quality improvements and address areas of opportunity.
- The offering **'First Responder Training'** for all individuals that may come in contact with victims of sexual assault at or affiliated with a Pittsburgh higher education institution. This training will be led by subject matter experts with a particular focus on trauma, proper response to a victim, report writing, initial interview, forensics and understanding the victim's mindset. Curriculum development and delivery of the training modules will be led by key Pittsburgh partners that will include but is not exclusive to the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, forensic experts including SANE nurses, the Medical Examiner's Office, PAAR, the foundation community and PCHE institutions' staff.
- The offering **'Title IX (Non-University) Community training'** that gives an overview of university/college's requirements in the area of sexual assault as outlined by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights, to our community partners (non-university police departments, DA's office, advocacy groups such as PAAR, SANE nurses, etc.) This would include supplemental training and/or communication notifying our community partners of any changes that may be announced by the DoE OCR.
- Facilitating and participating in **regular meetings by Title IX Coordinators** and others as appropriate from each PCHE institution to share policy, protocols, best practices and new ideas. This includes creating a PCHE Title IX sub-committee to lead discussions and initiatives in the community, and creating a PCHE Title IX email distribution list to exchange relevant or pertinent information related to Title IX and Pennsylvania legal issues.

Carlow University • Carnegie Mellon University • Chatham University • Community College of Allegheny County •
Duquesne University • La Roche College • Point Park University • Robert Morris University •
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary • University of Pittsburgh



- Communicating to our respective communities when PCHE institutions partner in the area of prevention, investigation and response programming.
- Leveraging and drawing upon the rich, local resources and expertise on sexual assault in the areas of support, training, prevention and education within PCHE institutions. PCHE schools will also utilize one another to stay current and accountable for providing top notch prevention and response.
- Communicating as permitted and appropriate with key stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, information that is relevant to investigations and developments on sexual assault cases. Any communications would be done within confidentiality guidelines and requirements for all parties involved.

Carlow University • Carnegie Mellon University • Chatham University • Community College of Allegheny County •
Duquesne University • La Roche College • Point Park University • Robert Morris University •
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary • University of Pittsburgh



Authors of the **Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh Campus Sexual Assault Collaborative Practices document**

Community Partners:

Jan Necessary, Deputy District Attorney, District Attorney's Office of Allegheny County
Lee Goldfarb, Assistant District Attorney, District Attorney's Office of Allegheny County
Alison Hall, Executive Director, PAAR
Janet McFarland, Supervisor of Nursing and SANE certified nurse, Magee Hospital
Detective Bryan Sellers, Sexual Assault, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police

PCHE Partners:

Ted Fritz, Associate Vice Chancellor, Public Safety and Emergency Management, University of Pittsburgh
Tom Hart, Chief of Police, Duquesne University
Mike Sippey, Asst. Chief of Police, Duquesne University
Holly Hippensteel, Title IX Coordinator, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Carnegie Mellon University
Keith Paylo, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Point Park University
Elizabeth Rosemeyer, Title IX Coordinator, Point Park University
Dr. Jen Carlo, Vice President of Student Engagement, Carlow University
Karen Baillie, Attorney, Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP (formerly general counsel at Carlow University)
Pam Connelly, Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, University of Pittsburgh



PCHE Title IX Regional Steering Committee Members

Community Members

Carmen Anderson, Senior Program Officer, Heinz Endowments

Julie Evans, Director of Crisis and Prevention Services, PAAR (Pittsburgh Action Against Rape)

Alison Hall, Executive Director, PAAR (Pittsburgh Action Against Rape)

Sue Jamison, Faculty, Robert Morris University, Board member of PAAR

Dr. Liz Miller, Chief, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Jan Necessary, Deputy District Attorney, Allegheny County District Attorney's Office

Bryan Sellers, Detective, Sex Assault Unit, Bureau of Police City of Pittsburgh

Debra Shane, MSN, RN, SANE-A, Clinician & Forensic Coordinator, UPMC Mercy

Kristy Trautmann, Executive Director, FISA Foundation

PCHE Members

Tom Hart, Chief of Police, Duquesne University

Holly Hippensteel, Title IX Coordinator, Assoc. Dean of Students, Carnegie Mellon University

Dr. Valerie Howard, Dean and University Professor of Nursing, Robert Morris University

Keith Paylo, Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Asst. Vice President, Dean of Student Affairs, Point Park University

Katie Pope, Title IX Coordinator, University of Pittsburgh

Elizabeth Rosemeyer, Title IX Coordinator, Point Park University

Mary Utter, Assistant Dean of Students, Chatham University

Sean Coleman, Vice President, Chatham University

Sean Weaver, Title IX Coordinator, Duquesne University

Carlow University + Carnegie Mellon University + Chatham University + Community College of Allegheny County +
Duquesne University + La Roche College + Point Park University + Robert Morris University +
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary + University of Pittsburgh