

Annual Report 2016-2017



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## Mission & Goals

### Office Mission Statement

The mission of the Phoenix Center at Auraria | Anschutz (PCA) is to implement campus response services, provide education, and facilitate dialogue related to interpersonal violence in the Auraria community. Through a dedication to the empowerment model of service and a seamless implementation of campus response services, we work to ensure that the students, faculty, and staff associated with Metro State University Denver, University of Colorado Denver, and Community College Denver (hereafter the tri-institutions) may continue pursuit of their educational, personal, and professional goals regardless of their experiences with interpersonal violence (IPV).

#### Office Vision Statement

#### Office Goals

In June of 2015, the PCA outlined a number of goals for completion by the end of the 2016-2017 academic year. These goals are the following:

- Hire a new director
- Successfully increase student fee funding from \$2 to \$3 per student per semester in order to provide permanent funding for the VPE coordinator and graduate assistant positions
- Successfully reapply for Domestic Violence Program (DVP) funding
- Successfully open Phoenix Center at Anschutz

Through pursuit of our goals and dedication to our mission as stated above we were able to accomplish all but one of our goals.

- In November 2016, we hired on a new director, Megan Alpert.
- In April 2017, we secured a \$1 increase from both CU Denver and MSU Denver during the student fee referendum. This indicates a \$60,000 increase in revenue for the 2017-2018 school year. This makes our goals for the coming years all the more feasible!
- In April 2017, we successfully reapplied for DVP funding. DVP has moved to a four year grant cycle and, if approved for FY18, this funding will be sustainable through 2021.
- We were unable to successfully open the Phoenix Center at Anschutz during this academic year, but are hopeful for the coming academic year.

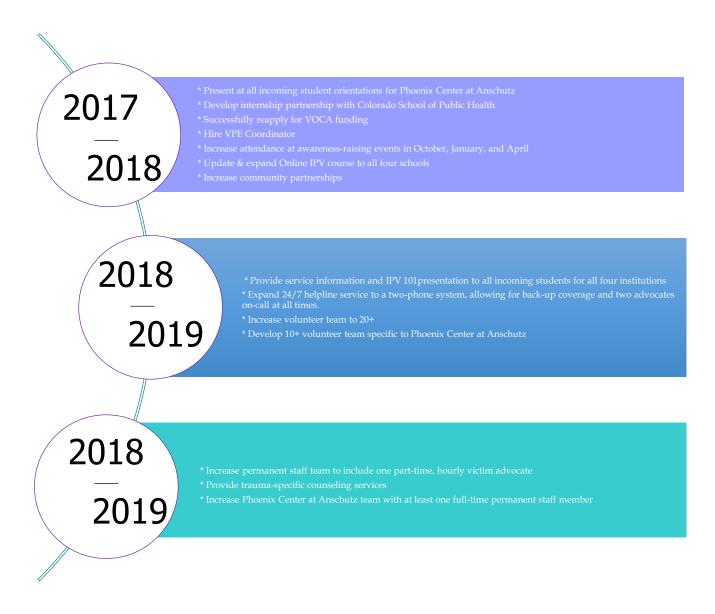
In addition to these stated goals and in accordance with our one-time VOCA grant agreement, the PCA was also able to write and produce three public service videos



regarding consent, supporting a survivor, and bystander intervention. It is our goal to fully integrate them during the 2017-2018 school year in our online training as well as in our in-person curriculums.

#### Longterm Goals

In June of 2017, the staff at the PCA conducted a summit to determine our goals, mission, and vision for our future. We developed the following list of goals and direction for our future:





## Staff

Kylie Mallory-Halter, MSW, LSW Victim Services Coordinator Sarah Lust, MSW Candidate JD Skaggs, MSW Candidate Nicole RIce, Human Services Intern

10 Confidential Victim Advocate Helpline Volunteers

Violence Prevention Peer Educators Lauren Sanford, '17 Brennalynn Flaherty, '19 Katie Bergstrom, '18

Megan Alpert, MSEd, LPCC Director

> Shanna Mae Petersen Program Assistant



## Trainings, Outreach, and Education

The PCA is committed to preventing instances of relationship or intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and stalking through comprehensive education. The curricula offerings for the 2016-2017 academic year were as follows.

### **Interpersonal Violence 101**

This session will provide a general overview of all aspects of interpersonal violence and will include interactive activities to help folks think about the dynamics of violence and issues such as consent, healthy relationships, and how to help a friend.

### Healthy Relationships: What's healthy? What's hurting?

An interactive discussion in which Violence Prevention Educators and participants work to create a shared definition of healthy relationships (intimate or otherwise) by placing emphasis on the importance of our personal values, boundaries, and needs. The group will also explore healthy ways love is expressed, harbingers of relationships in trouble, and power and control dynamics. In this way the course works to empower participants with the knowledge and ability to differentiate among healthy, unhealthy, and abusive relationships.

### **Bystander Intervention**

Have you ever wanted to step into a situation because you knew something was wrong, particularly if it is a friend you are worried about? This workshop discusses bystander intervention and works to develop strategies to intervene in difficult situations. The focus is on incidents of stalking, sexual assault and relationship violence, but principles can be applied to much more.

### Media Literacy

This workshop provokes discussion about what interpersonal violence is and how media and pop culture messages contribute to the normalization of it in our culture. Through activities, images and video clips the concepts of sexual objectification and gender construction in the social media age will be illustrated. The discussion will also look at intersections of race, class, and power as they relate to interpersonal violence. This workshop is intended to help participants think critically about a media heavy society and how it can affect views on interpersonal violence and what individuals and groups can do to create social change.

### **Gender Construction**

This workshop is designed to highlight how language and societally constructed gender



roles can contribute to sexism and interpersonal violence. We will explore how and why a binary gender system contributes to interpersonal violence and how we can help

disarm and shift harmful gender stereotypes. This workshop aims to deconstruct the social construction of gender and help attendees critically think about gender privilege, inequality, and interpersonal violence.

## **Community & Campus Involvement**

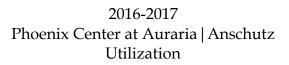
## Campus Committees

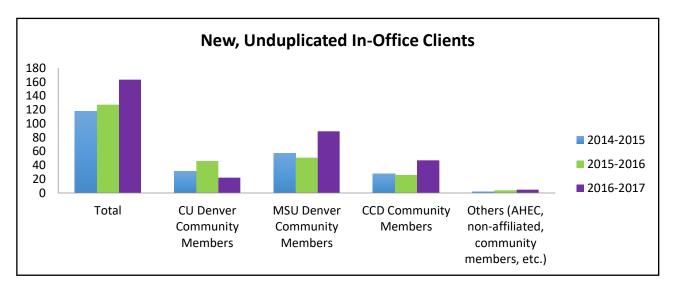
The Phoenix Center at Auraria | Anschutz is involved in a number of tri-institutional committees which are focused on providing students, faculty, and staff at each institution with an engaging and rewarding educational and professional environment. The PCA chairs the Auraria Outreach & Education committee which meets monthly to discuss PCA programming initiatives relevant to the campus community. The PCA also serves on the Sex Week Planning Committee, the Women's Leadership Conference Planning Committee, the "You are Welcome Here" planning committee, the MSU Denver Take Back the Night Week of Action planning committee, and the Gender Equity committee.

## Community Involvement

In addition to serving on various campus committees, the PCA also serves on the Sexual Assault Interagency Council, the Title IX Working Group, and the Campus Partners Group with various community stakeholders committed to keeping our metro area safe and engaging in trauma-informed practices.







*Figure 1. New, Unduplicated In-Office Clients. Figure 1 indicates the number of clients the PCA served according to institutional affiliation across three academic years. In 2016-2017, the PCA served 163 clients affected by interpersonal violence.* 

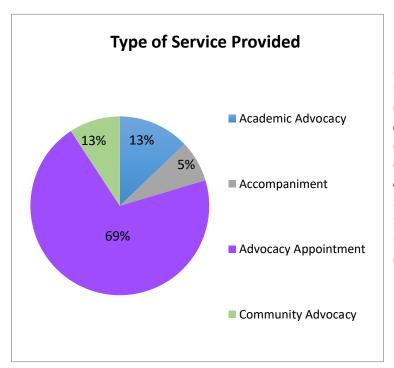


Figure 2. Types of Service Provided. Figure 2 indicates the distribution of services provided to clients at their request during the 2016-2017 academic year. The balance of services provided to clients fall into our "advocacy appointment" category. Services provided during these appointments included but were not limited to included safety planning, housing assistance, navigating compensatory programs, crisis intervention, psychological first aid, and ongoing case management.





Figure 3. Violence Prevention Education Workshops. Figure 3 represents the number of workshops requested from and provided by the PCA according to academic institution across three academic years. In 2016-2017, we provided 140 education workshops compared to 92 the previous academic year.

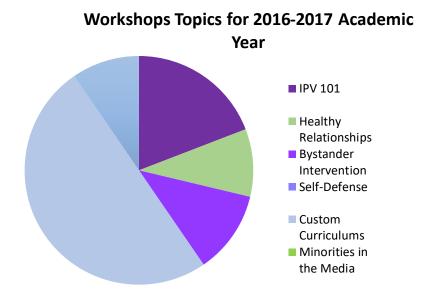


Figure 4. Workshop Topics for 2016-2017 Academic Year. Figure 5 illustrates the topics that our Violence Prevention Education team provided during the 2016-2017 academic school year. Custom curriculums were the most popular by far, though the IPV 101 workshop received rave reviews by all participants.



## 2016-2017 Phoenix Center at Anschutz Development

The Phoenix Center at Anschutz opened its doors in August 2017. Kalyn Stroik, the Anschutz Victim Services Coordinator, began serving clients in September. As of December 2017, nine Anschutz clients have been provided emotional support, case management, community and systems advocacy, accompaniment, resource referrals, and academic advocacy. Kalyn has spent 26 hours with clients in appointments and additional time providing them technical support, such as engaging law enforcement, community organizations, and district attorney representatives on clients' behalf. Although the Phoenix Center at Anschutz's numbers are lower than the Phoenix Center at Auraria, PCA professional staff are excited Anschutz faculty, staff, and students are being immediately served while outreach efforts are simultaneously undertaken. Staff expects numbers to grow as more people learn about the presence of the Center and the PCA becomes more established within the Anschutz community.

The PCA had a strong presence on campus in Fall 2017 and participated in several events and orientations, including Welcome Week, the Anschutz Block Party, Graduate School orientation, College of Nursing Resource Fair, Student Senate, and the College of Nursing BS Cohort orientation. Through orientation, tabling, presentations, and resource fairs, Kalyn and Megan have interacted with 599 people, including students, faculty, staff, and community members. In each interaction, Kalyn and Megan have introduced individuals to the Phoenix Center by providing them an overview of services. In addition, Kalyn also created a tailored curriculum on Adolescence and Violence and presented to 44 first year Physician Assistant students and three Physician Assistant faculty members, empowering them with knowledge and skills to appropriately support teen survivors in a healthcare setting.

To further raise awareness about the Phoenix Center at Anschutz, Kalyn engaged in a listening tour and brought the Red Flag Campaign to campus in October. Throughout the fall semester, Kalyn met with over thirty student and academic affairs administrators in each School or College in order to explain PCA services, learn about College-specific needs, and build collaborative relationships. As a result of cultivating connections across campus, Kalyn participates on the Healthy Campus Steering



Committee and is collaborating on a faculty development opportunity with the School of Medicine and the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Kalyn was also

invited Student Mental Health services to become a certified Mental Health First Aid instructor and co-instruct Mental Health First Aid courses with the Anschutz Case Manager. This provides an opportunity to meet more faculty, staff, and students while empowering individuals with skills to navigate the impact of distress and trauma.

The Red Flag Campaign was held during October in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The passive, awareness raising event was held in front of Building 500 and brought attention to the prevalence of interpersonal violence. Kalyn also tabled during the week-long event and the Campaign was featured in the student newsletter and CU Anschutz Today (<u>https://www.cuanschutztoday.org/advocacy-center-cuanschutz-ending-abuse-one-flag-time/#.WiF8wlGnB2Q.facebook)</u>.