Abuse Response Services Education Programs

Educating youth, parents, schools, community and professionals about violence and abuse is a key component of Canvas Health’s community education efforts. Through our Abuse Response Services program, we provide classroom and community education throughout Washington County. Presentations include:

**Youth Advocacy: Healthy Relationships** - Topics covered include domestic violence, sexual violence, emotional and financial abuse. Adolescents learn how to recognize early warnings signs of a potentially unhealthy or abusive relationship and what constitutes a healthy relationship. This presentation is for any age group, but is most targeted for middle school and high school age.

**College and Consent** - This presentation is targeted to high school juniors and seniors. The material is focused on enthusiastic consent and personal safety. Topics include the emotional, educational and legal aspects of sexual assaults. This is an especially important presentation for youth preparing to attend college.

**Sexting and Technology** - This presentation focuses on how technology can become a form of harassment and also how to stay safe online. Topics include emotional and sexual abuse in the context of sexting, Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms.

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents** - Based on the GEMS Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) curriculum, this presentation addresses the current crisis that many areas are facing with the sexual exploitation of children. The discussion includes why and how exploitation is happening, and how to best help survivors of these crimes. This presentation can also be given to survivors of trafficking.

**Introduction to Sexual Violence** - An overview of the mental and physical effects that survivors of sexual violence face.

Presentations can also be customized for any of the above topics to meet audience needs such as parents, teachers, community members, professionals, faith organizations, etc.

To schedule a free-of-charge presentation, contact:
Laurissa Wredberg at lwredberg@canvashealth.org or (612) 418-6559
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**FLASH Curriculum** - The FLASH curriculum is based on the Theory of Planned Behavior. It is designed to support young people in making healthy choices: abstain from sex, use protection when they do have sex, seek health care when they need it, communicate effectively with their families, and respect other’s decisions not to have sex. The sexual violence prevention lessons are based on the Social-Ecological Model. The Social Ecological Model addresses factors at the (1) individual, (2) relationship, (3) community and (4) society levels that put people at risk of experiencing violence as a victim or perpetrator. FLASH is a science-based promising program. It adheres to the Characteristics of an Effective Health Education Curriculum and is aligned to both the CDC’s National Health Education Standards for Sexual Health and the National Sexuality Education Standards.

**Safe Dates** - Safe Dates is the only evidence-based curriculum that prevents dating abuse: a factor often linked to alcohol and other drug use. Safe Dates is highly engaging and interactive, and helps teens recognize the difference between caring, supportive relationships and controlling, manipulative, or abusive dating relationships. Designated as a Model Program by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, each of the 10 sessions in the Safe Dates curriculum runs approximately 50 minutes.

**Can I Kiss You?** - In a 45 to 60 minute “Can I Kiss You?” program, middle school and high school students discover specific how-to skills for: Distinguishing healthy emotional and physical boundaries for relationships Requiring verbal consent before sexual intimacy Supporting survivors of sexual assault (including going to local crisis center). While most school presentations try to solely raise a teen’s awareness, “Can I Kiss You?” is focused on getting preteens and teens to take personal responsibility and to make positive, healthy choices for themselves and their peers. Can I Kiss You helps teach safer understandings of relationships and sexual intimacy to all ages; how to ensure all intimacy is consensual. We want everyone to understand what consent means. Always respecting the answer.

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