

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION MONTH



August 2024

HOW CAN YOU BE AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER?

Use the acronym **RAIDERS Respond!**

Recognize a Problem
Assume Responsibility
Implement Resources
Determine a Plan
Engage Others
Respond
Sustain the Culture



RECOGNIZE A PROBLEM

Be aware of your surroundings. Anticipate problems. Don't talk yourself out of thinking there is a problem. Trust your gut. Look for red flags – You hear someone joking about sexual assault; You hear degrading language; Someone is being pressured to drink; Someone is taking home an intoxicated person; One or more people are raising their voice in an aggressive manner.

ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY

If not you, who? If you see something, say something. Ask others what they think or read the room. Ask if someone is okay rather than assuming.

IMPLEMENT RESOURCES

Ask yourself: Where is the nearest hospital? Do you need a clear exit? Who can you call for help? Do you need to call the police or EMS? What local resources can you refer people to? Other points to consider: Is it safe for me to help this person? What aspects can I control?

DETERMINE A PLAN

Choose a course of action and make a plan. Consider frequency, duration, and severity. Stay calm, cool, and collected. Gather information and consider options. Withhold judgment. Give clear and direct requests. Know appropriate referrals. You can ALWAYS call 911!

ENGAGE OTHERS

Who do you need? Recruit them! Give people specific and clear instructions. If they don't respond, move to the next person. If you're the person in need, call people out with identifiers (e.g., "You with the blue jacket! I need your help!") Empower others to help, and always thank those who responded.

RESPOND

Tips for Intervening: Approach everyone as a friend. Do not be antagonistic/confrontational. Avoid violence at all costs. Be honest and direct, when possible. Keep yourself safe.

SUSTAIN THE CULTURE

Hold people accountable for their actions – big and small. Respect boundaries, communicate safety, and set clear expectations. Follow through and check in. Have courage, compassion, and know that love and acceptance heals a world of violence and hate.