

It's On Us

Keeping Pennsylvania College Campuses Safe

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It's On Us PA

• It's On Us PA is a statewide campaign that invites everyone to play a role in ending sexual assault. Building off the momentum of the national It's On Us movement, It's On Us PA brings together college and university presidents, superintendents, administrators, teachers, students, families, and community members to reframe the conversation around sexual violence and pledge to be part of the solution.



It's On US PA's four major goals

- 1. Provide an education program for students in consultation with a local rape crisis center and domestic violence program regarding sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, and provide resources and services available for victims.
- 2. Improve awareness, prevention, reporting, and response systems regarding sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking prevention, in schools, colleges, and universities to better serve all students.
- 3. Remove and reduce barriers that prevent survivors of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking from reporting and/or accessing vital resources by creating a more consistent, empowering, reporting process for student survivors of gender-based violence.
- 4. Demonstrate significant, proactive, and sustainable leadership to change institutional culture by challenging Pennsylvania's education leader-including college and university presidents-as well as students, faculty, staff, families, and communities to pledge to improve their institutions' climate.



Building a legacy of support

- 2016 Pennsylvania becomes the first "It's On Us" state
- This year, the Shapiro Administration increased funding to \$1.5 million
- Total award amounts since 2016 exceed \$8.7 million
 - 100 different colleges and schools across Pennsylvania
 - 35 of the 2023-2024 awardees previously received the It's On Us PA grant

YEAR	APPLICATIONS	RECIPIENTS
2016-2017	62	36
2017-2018	63	39
2018-2019	52	38
2019-2020	66	36
2020-2021	54	42
2021-2022	34	34
2022-2023	50	39
2023-2024	63	37
Total	444	301



Pennsylvania state policies evolve

ACT 16 of 2019 (XX-J)

- Clear, understandable, written policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence
- Provides protection to victims/witnesses from institutions conduct policy violations
- Establishes anonymous reporting system

• ACT 55 of 2022 (XX-G)

- Made provisions applicable to Private Licensed Schools in addition to Institutions of Higher Education
- Drafts a definition of consent
- Requires Memorandums of Understanding with rape crisis and domestic violence crisis centers
- Requires educational programming created in consultation with a rape crisis center and a domestic violence crisis center

Examples from schools

- Partnered with a local high school to put on a play and featured a talk back session w audience in 21-22
- Partnered with a local medical center for afterhours student crisis support through 19-20 grant year and continued partnership into 20-21
- Implementation of "Togetherall" online peer-to-peer support community, which touts the opportunity to "share experiences in a safe anonymous space"
- Created a "unique, cutting edge, relevant, and authentic filmbased learning interaction addressing sexual assault and intervention prevention from a student's perspective"

The work continues



SPRING 2023 INAUGRAL IT'S
ON US PA CONVENING –
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

CONTINUED COLLABORATION
WITH CONTENT EXPERTS IN
ADDRESSING ISSUES TO
KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect

It's On US National Educational Program Pa. Chapters PSAC Playbook



Trending in postsecondary education

In an interview conducted with Tracey Vitchers, the Executive Director of It's On Us National, it was reported:

- Students are unhappy with the online prevention programs Students want more information on "what to do" vs "what not to do"
- Young men feel that their experiences are not reflective in prevention education

Christa Cobb, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at PASSHE reported:

An uptick in phishing cases among some PASSHE institutions



Resource Partners

It's On US National

www.itsonus.org

Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect

www.pcar.org

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

www.pcadv.org





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The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.



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