

# **Nebraska Collegiate Consortium to Reduce High Risk Drinking Mini-Grant Project Final Report**

## **Project Manager: Geri Cotter, Assistant Dean of Students**

The objective of this project was to assist Nebraska Wesleyan University meet Goal 3, Objective 1 of our Alcohol Awareness and Education Strategic Plan 2009/10 through 2011/12: "To actively participate in collegiate and community consortia focused on limiting the number of outlets selling alcoholic beverages and providing training to servers."

The methodology for achieving this objective involved sponsoring a one day workshop to help educate other institutions about the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's "Tiers of Effectiveness", particularly Tier 2, which focuses on environmental factors such as encouraging restrictions on the density of retail outlets and promoting responsible beverage service. In addition, we hoped to familiarize other small colleges and universities across the state with the Nebraska Collegiate Consortium to Reduce High Risk Drinking (NCC), and the assistance that entity is able to offer schools as they strive to reduce high risk drinking on their campuses and in their communities. Students from Nebraska Wesleyan University come primarily from the State of Nebraska. Throughout the year, they spend time in communities other than Lincoln. It is only by working together as a state consortium that we can truly impact the environment, which is the emphasis of the NIAAA Tier 2 strategies and of Goal 3, Objective 1 of the NWU Alcohol Awareness and Education Strategic Plan 2009/10 through 2011/12.

On January 23, 2012 an invitation went out to 11 of Nebraska's smaller colleges and universities inviting them to participate in a one day Campus Alcohol Awareness and Abuse Prevention Workshop. They were asked to send up to 3 representatives for whom Alcohol Awareness and Abuse Prevention is one of their many job responsibilities. Of the 11 schools invited, 5 participated, 2 responded affirmatively, but had to cancel at the last minute and 5 did not respond, despite follow-up attempts. The 7 non-participating institutions were later provided with copies of the materials distributed at the workshop. In addition, contact information for representatives of these institutions was provided to the Nebraska Collegiate Consortium to Reduce High Risk Drinking to facilitate individualized follow up by Consortium Staff.

The workshop was held on the Nebraska Wesleyan University campus on Friday, April 27, 2012. An agenda outlining the content of the meeting is attached. Prior to the presentation on the NIAAA Tiers of Effectiveness, participants were asked to work in their campus group and determine what programs and services they were currently sponsoring that fell into one of 4 genres. They were also asked to identify future programs and services that they would like to sponsor that would fall into one of these genres. After the presentations on the Tiers of Effectiveness, the groups were again asked to identify future programs that fell into each of these genres; however, now they were equipped with the research that indicated the relative effectiveness of the various genres or Tiers. The hope was that the institutional representatives would be able to identify more future programs falling into the highly rated Tiers 1 and 2 after the presentation, than they were prior to the presentation. Unfortunately, the lists that were generated after the presentation were not collected upon conclusion of the workshop. In an attempt to rectify this error, all participating institutions were contacted by e-mail after the workshop, asking them to identify their "wish-list" of programs and services and the Tier in which they fell. To date, we only have responses from 2 schools. Both schools confirmed our hypothesis that they would have more programs and services in Tiers 1 and 2 after the training than they had preceding the training.

The effectiveness of the workshop was also determined by evaluations completed by the various institutional representatives. Of the 13 evaluations submitted, 11 individuals indicated that the workshop increased their understanding of the NIAAA Tiers of Effectiveness, 12 reported that the

workshop increased their awareness of the Nebraska Collegiate Consortium to Reduce High Risk Drinking, 11 individuals stated that as a result of the workshop, they are now aware of the benefits of membership in the Nebraska Collegiate Consortium to Reduce High Risk Drinking, and 10 said that they had ideas for a mini grant project that might be funded through NCC. A summary of completed evaluation form results is attached.