



New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault

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The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault Receives A Total Funding of \$164,265 to Work with Colleges Under Enough Is Enough Legislation

[New York] The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault (“the Alliance”) is very pleased to announce that the Alliance received a funding award of \$163,265 under the Enough is Enough legislation passed in July this year by Governor Andrew Cuomo. The Alliance is one of the 60 confirmed recipients of \$4.5 million funding.

This vital funding will support the Alliance to hire a full-time staff to implement effective education and prevention strategies as well to conduct campus outreach efforts. There are already five New York City-based colleges that have requested our assistance to improve their practices around sexual assault from the Alliance.

Mary Haviland, Executive Director of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault states, “the Alliance is committed to working with colleges and universities to build their capacity to best respond to sexual assault on campuses and further to prevent it before it happens. We are very appreciative of the strong leadership of the Governor and New York State legislature demonstrated to combat campus sexual assault. These funds will allow the Alliance as well as sexual assault programs all over the state to respond to requests for assistance from colleges that were not possible without these critical resources.”

The new law, passed in July, 2015, requires that cutting edge new strategies be developed by all institutions of higher education in the state to address sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. It also includes an allocation of the following resources to support these strategies:

- The creation of a new unit within the State Police called the “sexual assault victims unit,” with a focus on advanced training in responding to sexual assaults and related crimes. This new unit will provide assistance to campus police or local law enforcement, as well as training to college campus communities;
- A commitment of \$10 million to help combat campus sexual assault through various partners, split in the following manner: \$4.5 million to rape crisis centers to provide services and resources

to students, \$4.5 million to the State Police to create sexual assault victims unit, and \$1 million to colleges and universities; and.

The new law requires that all public and private colleges and universities in New York State adopt uniform policies to address sexual harassment and assault. It implements many of the measures initiated by the Governor and adopted by the City University of New York (CUNY) and State University of New York (SUNY) in December, 2014.

The most important elements of the Enough is Enough bill require: the adoption of an affirmative consent standard for sexual activity, a bill of rights for students who are alleging sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking and the requirement of a fair and timely adjudication process upon reporting such allegations to certain college administrators or campus safety staff. In addition, first responders to sexual assault must notify victims of their right to contact outside law enforcement. Further provisions of the bill require campuses to notify all students of their rights, to provide education on sexual assault, to offer amnesty for drug and alcohol violations for those reporting an incident of sexual assault and to train all campus staff who will be responding to this issue. Finally, the bill also affords certain due process protections to those accused of violations of this policy.

The Alliance also provides resources, short-term counseling and criminal justice advocacy to students who have been victims of sexual violence through its Help Line 212-514-SAFE (7233). **The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault**'s mission is to prevent sexual violence and reduce the harm it causes through education, research and advocacy.

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