

STONEHILL COLLEGE
Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations Biennial Report
April 2016

List of College drug- and alcohol-related policies and standards of conduct

E1.4 Substance Awareness Policy and Statement of Compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (see Appendix 1)

Description of the goals and elements of the College's AOD programs

The Offices of Community Standards, Accessibility Resources, and Health and Wellness coordinate the College's alcohol and other drug abuse education and prevention programs. Programs include preventative education and training on alcohol and other drug abuse and the Substance Awareness Policy, as well as direct services and outreach programs to the College community. Our program includes:

- The Alcohol and Other Drug Committee: a group of students, staff, and faculty charged with overseeing the implementation of recommendations that emerged from the College's Alcohol Task Force (see Appendix 2) and the Campus Alcohol Prevention Action Plan (2016) with the ultimate goal of decreasing high-risk drinking and other drug use by Stonehill students. The Committee is responsible for developing and executing an annual plan to address alcohol and other drug issues in a comprehensive manner, as well as providing on-going progress reports to the Stonehill community regarding the work of the Committee and its impact on student behavior. The Committee also seeks to reduce secondary issues related to alcohol and other drug abuse.
- The Office of Health and Wellness web page provides AOD data for student reference: <http://www.stonehill.edu/offices-services/health-wellness/>
- The College continues our relationship with EverFi, a national coalition that works to address alcohol and other drug abuse using evidence based practices.
- The College utilizes research and community specific data from assessments (CIRP, CORE, AlcoholEdu) to inform practices.
- Student Affairs issues referrals for assessment and plans for on-going support for alcohol and other drug assessments.
- The College annually distributes DFSCA notices to students and employees (see Appendices 3 and 4).
- The College's Employee Assistance Program offers free counseling to employees on a variety of issues including drug and alcohol concerns.
- The College has established community partnerships to prevent underage drinking and limit alcohol sales to students over the age of 21.
- Professional staff in Residence Life as well as student staff within residence halls receive on-going training regarding alcohol use and abuse.
- A seminar for first year students includes a presentation on decision making related to drug and alcohol use.
- The College schedules alcohol-free events during the day and evening.
- The College sponsors a "Fun Fund," a grant that students can apply for to receive financial support to participate in an alcohol-free activity.

- The College provides speakers and activities that promote good decision making around drug and alcohol use, and address potential negative consequences surrounding abuse of substances.
- The College offers student and family presentations during new student orientation on topics related to drug and alcohol use.
- The College has a recreation center and also has intramural sports during evening hours.

Strengths and weaknesses of the College’s AOD program

The College uses a comprehensive, coordinated approach to increase alcohol and other drug awareness, which stems from the mission of the College: “developing the academic, professional, social, cultural, and intellectual potential of each member of the community.” The College provides selective programming in an effort to target students with demonstrated signs of alcohol problems and has increased its use of data in assessing campus culture and developing evidence-based strategies. This empirical data is relied upon to inform decisions and policy review. Alcohol and drug policies, as well as the adjudication of these policies are strong and consistent, and provide opportunity to educate and assess students at risk.

The College has developed a consistent messaging and marketing strategy for AOD awareness with which students identify.

Recommended improvements to the College’s AOD programs

1. Encourage consistent enforcement of alcohol policies in the residence halls while simultaneously developing a strong sense of community.
2. Devote additional resources to alcohol prevention at Stonehill.
3. Develop an effective, comprehensive marketing strategy with a focus on social norming.
4. Prioritize effective prevention programming.
5. Continue to implement the recommendations of the College’s AOD Committee in a consistent manner.

AOD Notification

At least once a year, the Office of the General Counsel reviews and revises the College’s alcohol and drug policies to reflect changes in the law. The College distributes its annual written AOD notification to students, faculty, and staff via multiple sources: a legal notices pamphlet, the student handbook, and the Employee Handbook. The steps we took to ensure that everyone received the notice are set forth below.

Legal Notices Pamphlet: The College distributes a hard copy Legal Notices pamphlet that contains all notices that must be delivered in hard copy, including the AOD notification. The College sends the notice to commuter students via U.S. mail, and delivers it to residential students at the time they receive their room keys. The College delivers the pamphlet to employees via campus mail at the start of the fall semester, and thereafter on a rolling basis for new employees.

Student Handbook: The student handbook is available to all students, faculty, and staff via the College’s website. The registrar sends an e-mail to all students each year with a link to the current handbook when it becomes available. The link to the handbook is: <http://catalog.stonehill.edu/>.

Employee Handbook: The College provides the notices to all newly hired employees via the Employee Handbook and a link to the College Policy Manual, which is available on the College's intranet. We require newly hired employees to sign a statement verifying that they have reviewed the information.

Consistent Enforcement

The College puts forth an extensive effort to detect violations of the Community Standards, specifically in regards to drug and alcohol violations, and to consistently enforce its policies against all types of students. The Office of Community Standards bears primary responsibility for the detection of AOD violations and consistent enforcement of College policies. The Office of Community Standards is staffed by a full-time director and a full-time administrative assistant. The Director has nine years of experience and holds an advanced degree. The Director's duties are focused on prevention (5%), adjudication (90%), and policy enforcement efforts (5%).

The Director of Community Standards holds annual trainings for the Residence Life Staff and Campus Police regarding the College's AOD policies. Additionally, the Director is available for individual consultations with all college consistencies regarding AOD questions.

The Offices of Residence Life and Campus Police are responsible for the vast majority of documenting violations of the College's AOD policies. The Residence Life staff employs 10 professional staff members (seven live-in Resident Directors) and 56 resident assistants. The Resident Directors and Resident Assistants provide consistent oversight of the eight residence halls on campus. The staff focuses on prevention (10%), adjudication (10%) and community relations (80%). Additionally, Campus Police is comprised of 16 full-time sworn police officers. These officers work in shifts and are responsible for monitoring the campus grounds.

Appendices

1. Substance Awareness Policy and Statement of Compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
2. Final Report of the Alcohol Task Force
3. Campus Alcohol Prevention Action Plan
4. DFSCA Annual Notice to Students
5. DFSCA Annual Notice to Employees
6. Vice-President's Letter to First Year Families