WGAC provides confidential victim advocacy to survivors of interpersonal violence. Advocacy includes connecting students to campus and community resources that can provide emotional, legal, academic and medical services in the aftermath of trauma.

Two critical components of our ethical guidelines for advocacy include making specific relevant referrals and allowing a victim to choose their own path of healing. As a result, we are invested in making sure survivors feel empowered to make informed choices about what is best for them, and we support a survivor’s rights to make those choices. Advocates are trained to remove any personal values when making referrals and always put the needs of survivors first.

To be a hotline volunteer, you must attend over 45 hours of training. Full time advocates are required to have a full year of post-graduate experience in the field. Both volunteers and professional advocates go through on-going training to stay current with trauma informed care, laws and legislation, and local resources. We take competency very seriously and make life-long learning a core component of our work.

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关于我们的服务情况:

- 自2011年以来，我们的倡导工作人员已与超过1,700名幸存者进行了5,000多次预约。这些案例代表了许许多多的幸存者斗争问题、偏见和责任。我们为每一位找到力量与倡导建立联系的个人感到自豪。
- 我们平均每天看到4名新幸存者。24小时热线电话的拨打次数每年都在增加。因此，去年ASCSU学生费用评审委员会要求我们增加我们的费用以容纳更多的倡导人员。

关于转介的讨论:

- 自自2011年以来，学生费用的决定未超过5名学生请求资源用于怀孕。这代表了.003%的比例。我们提到这一点并不是为了减少求助怀孕学生的需要，而是为了说明我们如何在决定转介时保持真诚。
- 我们的主要转介是通过CSU保健网络、计划生育协会、校外的初级护理医生/医生和/or 采用梦想成真。根据不同情况，其他转介可能是适当的。

由于我们的转介是来减少拨打电话的触点数，通过连接学生与最适当、最全面、最包容的资源，尽快解决求助者的需要。在这些情况下，根据不同学生的需要，我们的主要转介是CSU保健网络、计划生育协会、校外的初级护理医生/医生和/or 采用梦想成真。在个别情况下，其他转介可能是适当的。
ABOUT STUDENT EMPLOYEES AND OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Some of our student employees are also members of student organizations on campus. We do not monitor or infringe on an employee’s right to associate with others when they are not “on the clock” nor do we pressure participation in specific organizations. Those choices belong to each individual. When “on the clock”, every employee is expected to follow the advocacy code of ethics and our guiding philosophies, which do not allow us to infringe on or shame an individual survivor’s federally granted medical rights.
- Our Instagram account has been in existence since 2016. Since that time we have had over 230 posts, one of which referenced a topic tied to reproductive health (specifically, STI testing). This represents .0004% of our total posts.
- Our Facebook page has been in existence since 2013. Since that time we have had well over a thousand posts, 6 of which reference a topic tied to reproductive health. This represents less than .0006% of our total posts.

ABOUT THE IMPACT ON THE CENTER

- Many students have expressed concerns about our office being “defunded”. While the past resolution did not explicitly name defunding as an option, it also did not explicitly state what would happen should the WGAC decline any demands. It is understandable why many students have expressed concern that defunding could come in the future, especially if Student Fee Review Board members are authors on any legislation referencing student fees.
- A core value of our center is to always believe survivors. We have been informed through non-confidential means that a student came in under the guise of seeking resources and secretly recorded an advocacy meeting. This student then shared this information with other members of ASCSU and requested approval to play a selected portion of the recording during the ASCSU senate meeting on 10/09/19. To knowingly participate in behavior which could cause advocates to feel suspicious of students seeking our resources is an exceptionally unethical act. Future suspicion by advocates has the potential to come across as disbelief. It cannot be overstated that simply being believed may save a survivor's life, and undermining this integral part of the survivor-advocate interaction is profoundly concerning.
- This residual impact from the resolution has taken time and energy away from staff during one of our busiest months. October is Relationship Violence Awareness Month which requires a great deal of prevention programming and our Center sees an increase in survivor needs around Homecoming and Halloween.
- WGAC staff remains strong and committed to believing and supporting anyone who comes through our doors. Thank you for the referrals and support from our amazing campus and community partners.

A CLOSING MESSAGE TO SURVIVORS:
WE BELIEVE YOU AND ARE HERE FOR YOU.

In Solidarity,
The Staff of The Women and Gender Advocacy Center

Questions or comments? Contact Monica Rivera, Director OR submit anonymous comments via “feedback” button on our website