

Sexual violence, at no matter what age, is important for all to understand the warning signs, how to prevent it, and how to best support victims. According to RAINN, 13% of all students experience sexual assault and less than 20% of victims report to law enforcement.

Our DOJ grant titled, *HOPE: Helping Others through Prevention Education* highlights education and special services for sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking where our goal is to provide the necessary prevention education to decrease the chances of these occurring in our community. Through the grant, students gain prevention education in various areas of sexual violence with a strong focus in bystander intervention.

Ensuring students understand the signs of violence occurring, how to de-escalate situations and provide support for those who are victims is important for all students to learn. The grant enables us to better provide support for students and improve our approach on campus. Thus far, our Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) have reviewed and improved various policies and services within Student Conduct, Counseling and Psych Services, Campus Safety & community partnership. We have ensured all new campus safety officers are trained in areas around sexual assault and are better educated on how to handle such situations when a call is made while also updating the Student Sexual Misconduct Policies that can be found [here](#).



We have also hosted several training sessions for incoming freshmen and resident assistants along with various educational events. Some events to highlight is our Clothesline Project, pictured below, where students were able to raise awareness of victims of sexual violence and write on shirts to promote awareness. We have also hosted a Prevention Panel with various community organizations like Hudson Pride, Hudson SPEAKS, and WomenRising where organization representatives came together for a discussion on sexual violence in the LGBTQ+ community and how we, as a community, can come together to prevent violence in our community. Arlene Ganess is the Director of the grant.