COMMUNITY COALITION

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA & CALIFORNIA BOROUGH

The U.S. Department of Higher Education's Higher Education Center recognizes that Coalitions can play an important role in prevention. Research and best practices indicate that the most effective programs are campus-wide efforts that involve as many parts of the college as possible, including administrators, staff, faculty, and students. Building coalitions with local community leaders is also critical. Prevention planners can collaborate with local leaders to limit student access to alcohol and other drugs, prevent intoxication, and support the efforts of local law enforcement.

The Higher Education Center has supported college administrators, state officials, and community leaders in forming campus and community coalitions and taking an environmental approach to prevention. This approach is grounded in the principle that students’ decisions about AOD use are shaped by their physical, social, economic, and legal environment.

A committed group of government officials, local prevention advocates, and other key stakeholders on campus and in the local community can help shape this environment to support students in making healthy and productive decisions.

California University’s Community Coalition representation is comprised of students, faculty, AOD and Wellness programs personnel, residence life personnel, university judicial personnel, university administrators, local and community law enforcement professionals and local government officials. The Coalition generally meets on the last Friday of the month at 11 am.

If you are interested in taking part in California University’s Community Coalition or would like to discuss a topic of concern that the Coalition may address, please call or email Robert Mehalik, Cal U AOD Education/Prevention Specialist at 724-938-4775 /mehalik@calu.edu.