



Nebraska Collegiate Consortium To Reduce High-Risk Drinking Mini-Grant Program Final Report

Northeast Community College Alcohol and Other Drugs Coalition June 1, 2009

The Alcohol and Other Drugs Coalition at Northeast Community College (NECC) was awarded a grant from Nebraska Collegiate Consortium in order to promote student participation in the first circulation of the CORE health survey. The CORE is a proven survey on college campuses that gauges the use of, and understanding about, alcohol, other drugs and general health related topics. The grant funding assisted in covering the expenses for the following activities:

- A student incentive program to encourage participation in the CORE survey
 - The prizes included:
 - 4 \$10 Visa Gift Cards
 - 3 \$25 Visa Gift Cards
 - 2 \$50 Visa Gift Cards
 - 1 Nintendo Wii

During the month of May, students across campus, and at several education centers, were given the opportunity to participate in a pencil and paper version of the CORE survey. This survey was given to a variety of classes which come from every division on campus. The purchase of the survey, and the cost of evaluating the results, was paid for by funding from Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI), a SPF-SIG grant recipient. This group is a community coalition with the purpose of fighting high-risk use of alcohol across four counties in Northeast Nebraska. In order to have to get a valid representation of NECC's study body, the committee felt it was critical to have an incentive to encourage students to complete the survey. Participation in the survey was completely voluntary and confidential, and any student who filled out a CORE survey was entered into a randomly-selected drawing for the prizes listed above. The announcement of this incentive was made at the time the survey was described to the students, and seemed to make a difference in the willingness of students to spend time completing the survey.

The CORE survey was delivered in classrooms by the instructor. It was explained at the presentation that the survey is confidential and voluntary. Instructors stressed the importance of accurate information, and how this information is critical in developing programming on campus that would directly affect the students.

As a result of grant funding, the AOD coalition was able to collect 425 surveys, which represents a 70% rate of return; an amazing response rate for most student surveys! This important information will be instrumental in developing a strategic plan to address alcohol and drug abuse concerns/issues on campus.

The grant was administered by Liz Osborn-Mendoza and Stephanie Brundieck, co-chairs of the AOD coalition.