



# AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

## OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

### **Alcohol and Drug Response Protocol**

Agnes Scott College (ASC) has coordinated specific wellness and safety services in order to serve students dealing with alcohol and other drug abuse and/or who are concerned about their use of alcohol and other drugs. We utilize a multidisciplinary team approach, as this is considered a best practice for intervention of eating-related concerns on college and university campuses. The team consists of representatives from the fields of health, psychology, exercise, student life, nutrition and office of disability services who work collaboratively with the student toward stated goals.

#### ***Health Risks***

The scope and impact of health risks from alcohol and drug abuse are both alarming and well documented ranging from mood altering to life threatening. Abuse of alcohol and drugs alters behavior, distorts perception, impairs thinking, impedes judgment and sabotages opportunity. Substance abuse may result in deterioration of physical health by causing or contributing to various diseases, illnesses or birth defects which may result in permanent impairment or death.

For more information on the risks, prevention and resources related to alcohol and other drugs, please visit the following resources:

<http://www.higheredcenter.org/>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/index.htm>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/pwud/>

#### ***Education and Counseling***

In order to promote an environment free of substance abuse, the college supports an active program of community awareness and education. This program extends to the misuse or abuse of controlled substances including prescription drugs, alcohol and other harmful substances. The college also offers assistance with confidential counseling. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to refer individuals who appear to be troubled by drug or alcohol use to one of these resources. For students, such counseling is available through Counseling and Psychological Services (x 7100). Students who are concerned about their own or others' use of such substances may seek advice and counsel from appropriate college resources without fear of breach of normal rules of confidentiality or fear of punishment.

#### ***Intervention Team***

ASC takes a team approach in working with students and holding them accountable around their behavior regarding drug and alcohol behavior. Residence Life Staff and the Dean of Students Emergency on-call staff in conjunction with Public Safety respond to all reports of drug or alcohol abuse on campus. The College policies dictate the appropriate response from a student conduct perspective; however the College also aims to help students get connected to the appropriate

resources if the student has a substance abuse problem.

Once a student presents to or initiates contact with a team member, the team member will work with the student to identify what goals the student would like to work toward. The team will work collaboratively with the student to determine treatment options, course of treatment, and recommendations for continued care, taking into account the student's individual goals. Once a plan is created the student is responsible for scheduling and attending these appointments. It is important to be proactive in scheduling these meetings to guarantee being seen. Recovery from alcohol and/or other drug abuse must be a top priority to the student and the student should understand that at times adjustments to the student's academic and co-curricular plan may be necessary in order to incorporate treatment recommendations.

### ***Intervention Team Members***

- Wellness Center – 404.471.7100\*
  - Executive Director, Wellness Center
  - Director, Counseling and Psychological Services
  - Clinical Director, Student Health
  - Student Support Coordinator, Wellness Center
- Director, Residence Life - 404.471.6408
- Assistant Athletic Director and Director of Sports Medicine - 404.471.6496
- Coordinator, Disability Services - 404.471.6174
- Associate Dean of Students - 404.471.6075

*\*this line can be utilized to connect with any member of the Wellness Center listed above:*

The above individuals will meet on a regular basis once the need arises. The team may consult with others on an as-needed basis depending on the circumstances and needs of the student.

### ***Confidentiality***

Confidentiality means that information shared by a student with medical providers, mental health providers, and individuals serving on the intervention team cannot be revealed to any other individual without express written permission of the student. These individuals are prohibited from breaking confidentiality unless there is an imminent threat of harm to self or others.

Because an atmosphere of trust is vital when assisting a student who has disclosed personal information, all efforts will be made to ensure that a student's privacy is maintained. However, there may be occasions in which confidentiality is not always possible or appropriate. The College has the responsibility to balance the requests for confidentiality with our institutional responsibility of ensuring a safe educational environment and workplace. Thus, depending on the level of threat to the student's health and well being, on some occasions successful treatment may require the cooperation and involvement of the student's family and/or guardian. The student will be encouraged to share information regarding treatment with their family member and/or guardian in instances deemed appropriate by the team. When it is believed that a student's health and well being is in jeopardy, the family member and/or guardian will be notified and involved in the referral process to a more intensive treatment program. Additionally, under these circumstances emergency personnel may need to become involved in order to ensure the safety of the student.

### ***Identification and Referral***

Any student concerned about his/her own alcohol or drug use can consult with the response team by initiating contact with a member of the team.

Any member of the Agnes Scott College community (faculty, staff or student) who has concern about a particular student can consult with a team member. The team member will discuss the signs and symptoms noticed, give advice about how to talk to the student of concern and discuss how to refer the student for an assessment if indicated. The College considers this a best practice for referral of a student.

If the concerned party is uncomfortable approaching the student about a referral for an assessment, or the efforts have been unsuccessful, a team member may intervene on his/her behalf. Once the team member is able to verify and document the concerns and there is an indication of potential significant risk to self, the student will be notified and asked to schedule an appointment to meet with a team member for an initial assessment.

If the student is unresponsive to the request (e.g., doesn't respond to email or telephone calls, etc.) or if it is determined during this process that there is a significant and immediate risk to self, the Intervention Team will consult directly with the Dean of Students representative and/or emergency medical personnel.

### ***What are the Agnes Scott College Drug and Alcohol Policies?***

2014-2015 [Student handbook](#)

Registration guidelines for parties in the residence halls may be found on page 37 of the student handbook

ASC [Alcohol](#) and/or [Drug](#) Policies