

Spring 2019

# I'M HERE FOR YOU



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

## About

This semesterly newsletter is intended for I'm Here For You sticker holders, Community Coalition on Gender-Based Violence members, and advocates. Each semester this newsletter will highlight happenings on campus related to gender-based violence, updated information regarding applicable laws, and links to articles of related interest.

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## CHANGE WINS BEST SPONSORED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

This year at the Student Organization Awards, put on by SAGA, CHANGE took home the title of Best Sponsored Student Organization. CHANGE is proud to have been given this honor, and



they look forward to another year of student-driven programming on gender-based violence.



## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH WITH CHANGE

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and to mark it, CHANGE put on a signature event, held tabling events, and coordinated a consent awareness campaign.



CHANGE's signature event was called "Vulnerability as Strength: A Night of Positive Masculinity." This event focused on reimagining masculinity and engaging in conversations about how this work can affect gender-based violence prevention.

CHANGE partnered with Brothers For Excellence (B4E) and the



Interfraternity Council (IFC) on this event and invited Dr. Saed Hill, Assistant

CHANGE also held several self-care tabling events, where they provided tea and messages about self-care and resilience.

CHANGE rounded out Sexual Assault Awareness Month by partnering with Caffé Arrivadolce to pass out cup sleeves with messages about the importance of asking for consent on them.

Director of Prevention and Men's Engagement at Northwestern, to lead a keynote speech and discussion about positive masculinity. Members from CHANGE, B4E, and IFC were all present, along with other members of the greater Loyola community.

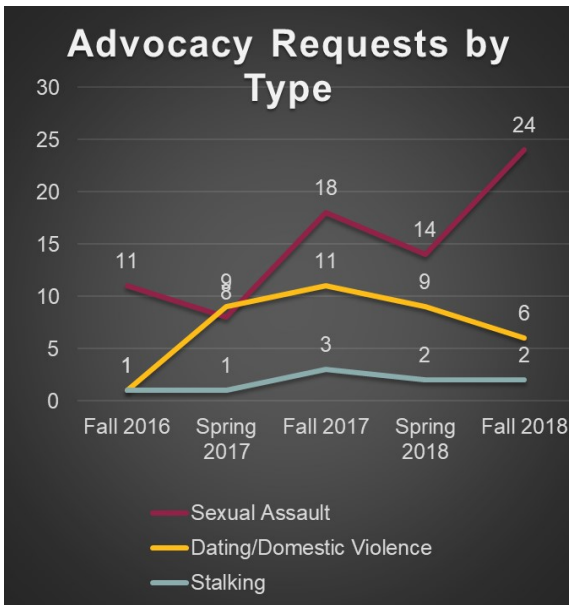


# LOYOLA ADVOCACY BY THE NUMBERS

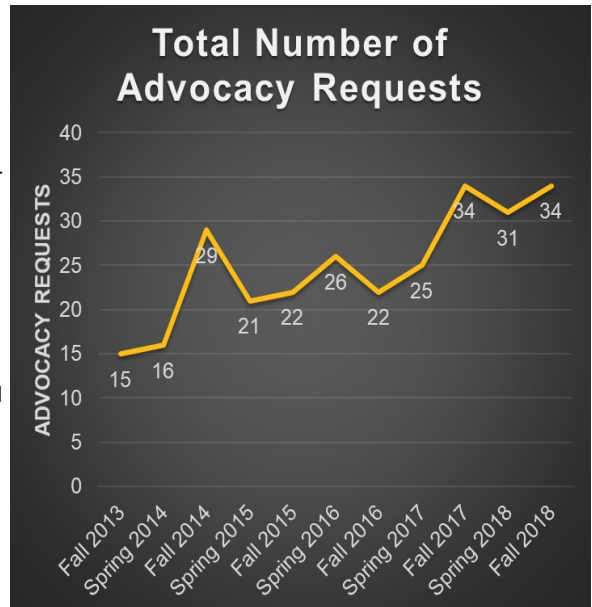
This year, Loyola Sexual Assault Advocates have provided advocacy to many student survivors and co-survivors of gender-based violence. They met with

survivors to provide advocacy 90 times over the past year- 57 times in the fall and 33 times in the spring. These numbers reflect the number of individual meetings with survivors, but the numbers in the graphs below refer to the number of individual students seen.

domestic violence have been decreasing, and requests for stalking have been remaining stable.



As noted in the graphs below, requests for gender-based violence advocacy in general have been increasing over the past 5 years. The highest increase is in requests for advocacy for sexual assault, which has increased to 24 requests in fall 2018, up from 11 in fall 2016. Advocacy requests for dating/



## ADVOCACY VOLUNTEERS

This year, the advocacy volunteer program grew from 4 to 11 volunteers. They received 40+ hours of training and staffed the Sexual Assault Advocacy line while it remained open for 24 hours over the weekend.

The volunteers also staffed 9 Safe Haven events throughout the year, providing resources and advocacy at these events, which provide a confidential space for disclosures of gender-based violence.

The application process to serve as an advocate for the 2019/2020 school year was the most competitive yet, with 25 graduate and undergraduate students applying. 9 new volunteers were accepted, and will complete their training over the summer to join the 3 volunteers who will be returning from this year.

## ADVOCACY LINE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Loyola Sexual Assault Advocacy Line serves students seeking support and resources for gender-based violence, but is currently being under-utilized. Over the past year, Health Promotion has been conducting a needs assessment of the Advocacy Line to improve the service.

Through key informant interviews and focus groups, this needs assessment aimed to understand what barriers exist for students seeking support.

Initial findings call for increased transparency about advocacy services and the advocates staffing the line, a new name for the line, and the utilization of peer influencers as a marketing model.

Health Promotion will be working throughout the summer to create an implementation plan for improving the line. Improving the Advocacy Line is a way for Loyola to provide survivor-centered services and to help to create a culture of care for one's self, others, and the community.

