



Prevent Sexual Violence On Campus Before It Happens

The South Dakota Department of Health's Rape Prevention Education Program introduces ENGAGE, an evidence-informed strategy designed to help create safer, healthier college campuses across South Dakota.

ENGAGE works to prevent sexual violence by strengthening the protective factors that help students and campus communities thrive.

Our Goal: Promote Community Connectedness

Students who feel connected to their campus, care about one another, and have opportunities to make a difference are more likely to build positive relationships and intervene when they see concerning behaviors.

COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS HELPS PREVENT:



Intimate partner violence



Stalking



Bias and discrimination



Mental health concerns & suicide



Alcohol & drug use

ENGAGE in Action

ENGAGE helps students:

- Look out for one another
- Step in when someone needs help
- Develop healthy relationships
- Foster an inclusive and respectful campus



A Campus-Wide Prevention Strategy

Preventing sexual violence is everyone's responsibility. ENGAGE brings together students, faculty, staff, campus leaders, and community partners through **three core components**.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING

Students take part in six classes that build the knowledge, confidence, and skills to recognize concerning situations and respond safely.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Interdisciplinary teams work across campus and within the community to address shared risk and protective factors.

SOCIAL NORMS CAMPAIGNS

Campus-wide campaigns promote a culture where caring for one another, respect, and community involvement are the expected norm.

Focused Evidence-Based Prevention

ENGAGE is grounded in guidance from the CDC and incorporates best practices for preventing sexual violence through a public health approach.

The program draws from key publications on sexual violence prevention:

- **Continuing the Dialogue:** Learning from the Past and Looking to the Future of Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention
- **Sexual Violence on Campus:** Strategies for Prevention
- **STOP SV:** A Technical Package to Prevent Sexual Violence
- **Connecting the Dots:** An Overview of the Links Among Multiple Forms of Violence

These resources support ENGAGE's shared risk and protective factor approach.

Coming to South Dakota Campuses

The South Dakota Department of Health is working with colleges and universities to bring ENGAGE to campuses across the state. Each participating campus can tailor the program to meet local needs while maintaining its core components.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Jess Danko: Jess.Danko@sdfmc.org

Sarah Barclay: Sarah.Barclay@state.sd.us

