

Year 1 Public Description of Work for
Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

University of California, San Francisco

CARE Ambassadors

This Action Applies to Rubric Item(s): 6: Ally or Ambassador Programs

Description of Work:

According to the 2018 NASEM report, all members of a campus community -- staff, trainees, students, faculty, administrators -- as well as members of research and training sites should assume responsibility for promoting civil and respectful education, training, and work environments, and stepping up and confronting those whose behaviors and actions create sexually harassing environments.¹ To foster ownership of addressing this issue, ally² or ambassador programs train and/or work to support cohorts of faculty, students, or staff embedded within existing academic ecosystems (departments, colleges, etc.) in leading change. These programs could focus work on either a relevant specific topic (sexual harassment, bias, diversity, etc.) or a specific cohort of people (for example: those who identify as men or as cisgender heterosexual). These types of programs aim to make the entire academic community responsible for reducing and preventing sexual harassment.

The UCSF CARE Office provides direct support to UCSF Affiliates who are harmed by sexual harassment and other interpersonal violence. The CARE Office also provides prevention education to our student population.

The CARE Ambassador Program is a student-led initiative to bridge the gap between the CARE office and the UCSF student body. Member students serve as liaisons between survivors and the various resources available to them. CARE Ambassadors are trained to understand how structural violence and systems of oppression influence sexual harassment and interpersonal violence. They are trained in trauma-informed practices, upstander intervention, and navigation of the various resources available at UCSF and in the community. The CARE Ambassador Program is new to UCSF. It was established in September of 2020.

The CARE Ambassadors also participate in awareness raising activities and prevention education.

¹ See Recommendation 15: <https://www.nap.edu/read/24994/chapter/9#187>

² <https://www.nap.edu/read/25585/chapter/6#89>

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Website for further information (if applicable): <https://careadvocate.ucsf.edu/care-ambassador-program>

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