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American Medical Student Association
House of Delegates 2022
Resolution:

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School(s): Harvard College, UNC School of Medicine, Milken Institute School of Public Health, CUNY Brooklyn College, Edward Via COM, Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine

Subject: Principles Regarding Violence and Hate Crimes

Type: Addition to Principles

WHEREAS, in the U.S., 79% of domestic violence survivors and 81.25% of sexual assault survivors do not seek professional help. [1]

WHEREAS, interpersonal violence survivors are often deterred from seeking professional help by personal reasons, including fear of their own safety and financial burdens. Institutional barriers exacerbate pre-existing obstacles. When surveyed, survivors listed distrust in the criminal justice system as a factor that prevented them from seeking assistance. [1]

WHEREAS, when preventative measures (i.e. phone counseling, emotional support) were implemented in healthcare settings, survivors of interpersonal violence were significantly more likely to take safety precautions [2]

WHEREAS integrating interpersonal violence prevention classes into the American medical school curriculum increased cultural sensitivity in students and improved care for survivors. Additionally, focus on intersectionality allowed a more in-depth understanding of interpersonal violence and improved physicians' ability to identify cases and assist patients. [2]

WHEREAS appropriate and respectful emotional support from nurses in emergency rooms can significantly help survivors in need of immediate care and increase positive outcomes by 23%. [3]

WHEREAS, the mental well-being of healthcare providers themselves is crucial in providing their patients with proper interpersonal violence (IPV) support. Thus, counseling for IPV should be made readily available for current medical students and healthcare providers. [4]

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PRINCIPLES REGARDING VIOLENCE AND HATE CRIMES (pg. 135-138) be **AMENDED BY ADDITION** to state:

The American Medical Student Association

1. **SUPPORTS** the implementation of interpersonal violence counseling, including emotional support, at student health clinics for medical students.
2. **SUPPORTS** the inclusion of interpersonal violence advocacy training with regards to intersectionality in the medical school curriculum.

Fiscal Note: None

Citations:

1. McCall-Hosenfeld, J. S. (2022, January 14). "I Just Keep My Antennae Out": How Rural Primary Care Physicians Respond to Intimate Partner Violence - PubMed. *PubMed*. Retrieved from pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24424251/
2. Moskovic, C., Wyatt, L., & Chirra, A. (2007, December 1). Intimate Partner Violence in the Medical School Curriculum: Approaches and Lessons Learned. *Journal of Ethics | American Medical Association*. Retrieved from journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/intimate-partner-violence-medical-school-curriculum-approaches-and-lessons-learned/2009-02
3. Watt, M. H. (2008, June 1). Providing support to IPV victims in the emergency department: vignette-based interviews with IPV survivors and emergency department nurses - PubMed. *PubMed*. Retrieved from pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18535310/
4. Gore, D. J. (2021, January 1). Creation of a Medical Student Training to Improve Comfort Providing Trauma-Informed Care to Sexual Assault Survivors. *PubMed Central (PMC)*. Retrieved from ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8366721/