

# PRESIDENTS' COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD



## ***Bridges Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Nashua Community College***

Nashua Community College has been working with Bridges Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Services for many years. More recently however, since early 2017, NCC has been working much more closely with this organization as a result of the Federal Campus Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention Initiative. This is a 3 year grant that is helping to partner the Community College System of NH with organizations from the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, to develop a comprehensive sexual assault prevention policy for each of the seven community colleges in NH as well as Granite State College.

As a part of the CSAPP grant listed above, Bridges has been working on a formal, written Memorandum of Understanding with Nashua Community College which will formalize the referral process for any NCC student reporting sexual assault or domestic violence either on or off campus. As part of the Campus Compact Civic Action Dialogue project grant, a Bridges representative helped the College present a screening of the film, "The Hunting Ground" on campus, and helped to facilitate a discussion afterwards. This event was open to the community.

As the community partner sitting on the NCC's Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention Task Force, Bridges has participated in on-campus activities by setting up a tabling event for a "Safer Sex Day" on campus. They have also volunteered to participate in Bystander Intervention "Training the Trainer" along with Nashua Community College students, faculty, and staff. They will be bringing this knowledge and ability back to their organization to teach this valuable skill to their staff.

And most recently, Bridges has been working closely with Nashua Community College in planning weekly events for April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Overall, Bridges Domestic and Sexual Violence Support has been an exceptional community partner, assisting both the Nashua Community College, and the Nashua community as a whole, in understanding the importance of the awareness and prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence both on-and-off campus. They have helped open the doors for honest and straightforward dialogue with students, faculty, and staff about the importance of having these support systems in place both at the College and in the community.