

Women and Gender Resource Center Division of Student Affairs

## **STUDENT FEES ADVISORY COMMITTEE** FY26 BASE AUGMENTATION REQUEST (B)

The WGRC is seeking a FY26 Base Augmentation Request in the amount of \$10,000 for Red Zone programming.

The Red Zone refers to the critical period during the Fall semester, from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving Break, when students are at the highest risk of experiencing sexual misconduct. During this time, new and returning students are adjusting to campus life, forming new relationships, and navigating unfamiliar environments, making it essential to proactively address their safety. Raising awareness about The Red Zone and the resources available to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct is a vital initiative that directly impacts campus safety, student wellbeing, and overall student and institutional success.

In response to the heightened risk during The Red Zone, the WGRC is planning a series of targeted programs to increase awareness and promote safety across the UH campus. Our initiatives will include a campus and community resource fair to promote available resources and ensure students have easy access to the supports they need to stay safe and informed. Additionally, we will offer awareness workshops designed to educate students on recognizing the signs of sexual misconduct, understanding consent, and knowing how to access support services both on and off-campus. To further extend our outreach, we will implement campus signage and awareness campaigns that highlight key safety messages and promote bystander intervention techniques. These visual reminders will be placed strategically around campus to keep the conversation about safety and support at the forefront of students' minds throughout the semester.

Increasing awareness and education about The Red Zone supports the strategic goal of <u>increasing</u> retention of First Time in College (FTIC) students and <u>increasing retention of Pell-eligible FTIC</u>. When students feel that their university prioritizes their safety and has comprehensive resources to address issues of sexual misconduct, they are more likely to stay engaged with their studies and remain enrolled.

This initiative also promotes <u>increased student engagement</u>, by actively involving students in prevention programs, peer education, and advocacy efforts. This empowers students to take an active role in creating a safer campus, strengthening their sense of community and belonging, which is crucial for their personal growth and academic success.

Project: Red Zone Programming

Investment: \$10,600 (Asking amount plus 6% admin fee)

Itemized breakdown estimate: Marketing (flyers and yard signs): \$2,000; Red Zone Resource Fair: \$6,000; Remaining Programs (food, marketing, supplies): \$2,000