



TRAINING FOR INTERVENTION PROCEDURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ramapo College of New Jersey Receives Award for Alcohol Education Program

ARLINGTON, Virginia – September 6, 2012 – Health Communications, Inc. (HCI), the providers of the TIPS (Training for Intervention ProcedureS) Program, is pleased to announce that Ramapo College of New Jersey in Mahwah, NJ has been awarded the 2012 TIPS Award of Excellence. This is an award bestowed by Health Communication's President & CEO, Adam Chafetz, and is chosen by an internal committee based on both volume of students certified and feedback from TIPS Trainers and student participants. There were nine (9) other campuses that received the award in 2012. According to Mr. Chafetz, "Ramapo College takes a unique and realistic approach to preventing students from misusing alcohol within their student housing."

Recognizing that students are in the best position to educate other students regarding the negative affects of high-risk drinking, Ramapo College implemented the TIPS program with the goal of training the majority of students who wish to live in alcohol-allowed housing. Since the inception of the TIPS program, which started in January 2011, thirty-three (33) TIPS classes have been offered and over 1,250 students have been certified. TIPS classes are offered several times during the fall and spring semesters, typically in September and October as well as in January, March and April. College staff, trained by TIPS personnel, conduct the training for Ramapo students. The first year of the program over 90% of students living in alcohol-allowed housing were trained in TIPS. "The goal of training the majority of students who live in alcohol-allowed housing was no small undertaking. I am overwhelmingly proud of the dedication and hard work of the TIPS trainers for their commitment to making this goal a reality", says Judith Green, Psy.D., Chair of the President's Alcohol and Other Drug Advisory Committee and Director of the Center for Health and Counseling Services.

Ramapo College of New Jersey is committed to providing a safe and healthy living and learning environment for all members of the community and to reducing the harm associated with alcohol and other drug use. TIPS is one of many environmental management strategies the College utilizes as part of its comprehensive Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program.

TIPS for the University is a two-hour program that helps students make sound choices when faced with difficult decisions about alcohol use. Working together with other students and administrators at their college or university, students address drinking behaviors specific to their school and develop intervention techniques appropriate to their campus. All sessions are taught by certified TIPS trainers, using video and printed materials to facilitate discussion of the course content. TIPS for the University provides students with the knowledge and confidence necessary to reduce high-risk drinking behavior among their peers. More than 1,200 campuses nationwide have implemented TIPS for the University. In addition, the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP), a project of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), has recently recognized the TIPS for the University training program by awarding high marks for both the quality and effectiveness of the program. For more information, you can visit www.tipsuniversity.org.

About Health Communications, Inc.

Health Communications, Inc. (HCI) was founded in 1982 by Dr. Morris Chafetz, founding director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Located in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, HCI is a nationally recognized expert in the field of alcohol training. Its flagship program, TIPS, was the first of its kind and continues to set industry standards for this type of training. Numerous public officials and government agencies have recognized and endorsed TIPS training as life-saving and critical to the progress made in reducing alcohol-related injuries and deaths. More information can be found at www.gettips.com.

About Ramapo College of New Jersey

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border. More information can be found at www.ramapo.edu.