

CRIME PREVENTION AND AWARENESS

Crime Prevention and Awareness presents the following programs to all faculty, staff and students upon request, and at the request of resident assistants, in the residence halls. They address specific needs of the audience and focus on individuals taking personal responsibility for their safety, avoiding unsafe situations, and using Department of Public Safety services. The sessions, unless otherwise noted, are at least one to one-and-a-half hours.

- **Who is Public Safety:** Introduces students to the functions, purpose, and services of WAU-Department of Public Safety (DPS). Offers important phone numbers and educates students on the training, credentials, and authority of Public Safety officers, on campus and in surrounding neighborhoods. Also includes descriptions of Public WAU-DPS role in the campus emergency plan.
- **Safety in the City:** Educates students about living in an urban setting and using crime prevention skills. Typically customized for the specific audience.
- **Be Safe At Home:** Provides students with safety tips and tools for use in their campus residence and around campus. Encourages safe living on campus; tells how to avoid becoming a victim and how to enhance safety during unexpected emergencies.
- **Alcohol and Drug Awareness:** Illustrates the effects of alcohol and the dangerous consequences of underage drinking. Additional programs educate students on the hazards of drug use, including, not only the danger to an individual's and well-being, but the legal ramifications, financial hardships, and social difficulties to which drug use or experimentation can lead.

Dating Violence Awareness: Educates individuals, primarily women, about rape and preventive strategies to avoid dangerous dating situations. Educates students on forms of dating violence, such as emotional and sexual abuse.

Crime Prevention and Security Awareness Programs

At any time during the year, the WAU-Department of Public Safety and Residence Life Services are able and willing to offer student programs concerning personal safety and crime prevention. These programs include safety in the residence halls, safety at parties (off-campus or on-campus), and safety while on the WAU campus. Also, WAU works with various local agencies and the local police department to present various programs for the benefit of the students, faculty, and staff at the university community.

The WAU Department of Public Safety, at all times, stresses the fact that safety starts with the student, faculty, and staff member during the year and during the various programs.

When time is of the essence, information may be sent via the Washington Adventist University Electronic Notification System, campus e-mail, and/or signs posted around campus.

If anyone would like to schedule a program for their group, they are encouraged to contact the Department of Public Safety at 301-891-4019, or send an e-mail to security@wau.edu.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) security assessments are available free to the University community by appointment through the Safety and Security Department's Crime Prevention Officers.

Crime Prevention Officers have had extensive training and are certified to conduct CPTED security evaluations. There are four important CPTED design concepts which are used when conducting a security evaluation of your property or business. Assessments are available for residences, apartment communities, churches, schools, businesses, and other facilities. Below is a brief overview of the four main CPTED design guidelines that our Specialist will utilize in conjunction with other survey elements while conducting your security review:

CPTED Principle #1: Natural Surveillance

Two-way visibility is the overall goal when it comes to CPTED and natural surveillance. A person is less likely to commit a crime if they think someone will see them do it. Appropriate use of lighting, fencing, and landscaping all play an important role in CPTED.

CPTED Principle #2: Natural Access Control

Natural Access Control is more than a high block wall topped with barbed wire. CPTED utilizes the use of walkways, fences, lighting, signs, and landscape to clearly guide people and vehicles to and from the proper entrances. The goal with this CPTED principle is not necessarily to keep intruders out, but to direct the flow of people while decreasing the opportunity for crime.

CPTED Principle #3: Territorial Reinforcement

Creating or extending a "sphere of influence" by utilizing physical designs such as pavement treatments, landscaping, and the use of signs enables users of an area to develop a sense of ownership, and it is also the goal of this CPTED principle. Public areas are clearly distinguished from private ones. Potential trespassers perceive this control and are discouraged.

CPTED Principle #4: Maintenance

CPTED and the "Broken Window Theory" suggests that one "broken window" or nuisance, if allowed to exist, will lead to others and ultimately to the decline of an entire neighborhood. Neglected and poorly maintained properties are breeding grounds for criminal activity. Officers will work with you to develop a CPTED-based maintenance plan to help you preserve your property value and make it a safer place.

For more information on CPTED, please contact the WAU-DPS at 301-891-4019, or visit our office located on the WAU campus, Building #6 (General Services), Office GS-4, and ask for the CPTED Specialist.