

**Title of Intervention:** Rhode Island Community Alcohol Abuse and Injury Prevention Project (CAIPP)

**Intervention Strategies:** Group Education, Supportive Relationships

**Purpose of the Intervention:** To effect changes in behavior of alcohol beverage servers

**Population:** Alcohol beverage servers

**Setting:** Licensed alcohol beverage service establishments in 3 Rhode Island communities; community-based

**Partners:** Various licensed beverage-serving establishments

**Intervention Description:**

- Group Education: Training courses were conducted in the intervention community. The purpose of the training was to provide servers with the knowledge and skills needed to prevent patrons from becoming intoxicated, prevent service of alcohol to minors, identify and cut off service to intoxicated patrons and help prevent injuries to those individuals. The training program also informed servers of their legal liability if they failed to obey laws.
- Supportive Relationships: The project emphasized training by peer servers. Every training session was co-facilitated by a server and an alcohol treatment/prevention professional from the community to provide a mix of server experience and expert knowledge of alcohol and its effects.

**Theory:** Enabling Theory

**Resources Required:**

- Staff/Volunteers: Experienced servers, alcohol treatment/prevention professionals
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Room for education sessions
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: "Responsible Alcohol Service" training manuals and videotapes, supplementary training materials
- Evaluation: Server behavior questionnaire, self-reporting forms

**Evaluation:**

- Design: Prospective cohort and cross-sectional
- Methods and Measures:
  - A server questionnaire assessed changes in reported server behavior
  - The Desired Server Behavior Index (DSBI) measured behavior change

**Outcomes:**

- Short Term Impact: Fifteen months after training, trainees reported significantly higher levels of desired serving behavior than non-trained servers. Though positive effects of server training diminished with time, responsible serving behavior four years post-training remained higher than pre-training levels.
- Long Term Impact: Not measured

**Maintenance:** Not mentioned

**Lessons Learned:** Server interventions are effective and should be implemented along with public education and programs targeted specifically to problem drinkers. Together, targeting both drinkers and gatekeepers should become a standard part of comprehensive alcohol abuse and injury prevention programs. Low literacy had been observed as a problem for some of the servers during the initial baseline survey. Refresher or booster training sessions for servers help maintain positive increases in desired serving behavior.

**Citation(s):**

Buka, S. L. and I. J. Birdthistle (1999). "Long-term effects of a community-wide alcohol server training intervention." *J Stud Alcohol* 60(1): 27-36.