

Programming 101

Programming Is

Fun!

Can be educational

Balances wants and needs

Residents want food/hang out time

Residents need community building/resources/connections

If you only have food – people will come to the program for what they “want” and leave right away

What are you doing to keep them involved or engage them? Provide for their “needs” as well

Duty nights when you plan, have an activity and maybe snacks!

It can be collaborative – you can collaborate with your duty cluster, academic departments, other student orgs, campus resources (like the Health Center or Women's Resource Center), the sky is the limit – think about your needs and wants and what group may have particular insight to share.

Spending money effectively

Finding your own definition of success based on your goal for the program – number of attendees is not always the most important factor for success.

Always recorded in a programming form (check your email!)

Programming Is Not

Duty night sitting on the couch doing your homework

Planning an event and inviting your friends versus your residents

A personal/private check in with a resident

Spending money frivolously or buying things for yourself

Helpful

If you are not sold on the idea, your residents won't be either.

The timing of your program is crucial. Think about other events going on, class schedules, day of the week, etc. Example) Programs in the middle of a week day may

How can the ResLife Office help me program?

Programming Support

Need help walking through any of your ideas or figuring out your facilitation plan?

Do you need help finding the contact info for someone you would like to co-program with?

Want some fresh ideas?

Danielle or Whitney can help with that!

Money

Whether it's a Cash Advance or Reimbursement, the student workers in the ResLife Office are here to help

Have bigger money questions or budgeting questions? Just ask Danielle!

Supplies

Projectors

Speakers

Craft Supplies

Prizes

Games

Sports Equipment

Sample Programs

Having a facilitated conversation on your floor about identity with Inter-Group Dialogue (IGD) trained facilitators

Providing pizza and coloring books as a study break for your House and encouraging people to stop by for 20 minutes

A duty night Mario Kart tournament

Invite your College House buddies and Peer Health Affiliate to a Flinner

Plan a night of s'mores with your floor at the outing club, you all will have fun and you will introduce your floor to a new resource on campus

Facilitate a House bonding activity where you talk about your goals as a house and how you will encourage each other to reach them

A West versus Osher field day, make sure to have activities accessible for all students

Pumpkin Carving in Smith House as a way to do a mid-semester check in with your residents

A BBQ for Sophomores as a collaboration between Ladd, Baxter, Stowe Hall, and Howard with plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers, lawn games, and Bowdoin swag prizes

A duty night where you get a projector/speakers from the Office and play Finding Nemo and have sea themed snacks, think goldfish and chips ahoy!

Invite your Peer Health affiliate over the week before Ivies to join you for resident questions and concerns and talk about safe behaviors

Invite CPC to your residence hall with a "Make your own" theme night, make your own cupcakes and make your own cover letter

Get van certified and take your floor apple picking, it's a great time of year to introduce them to Maine and check in about homesickness.