PARC started the 2018-2019 academic year with a lot of momentum around the office name change, which went into effect over the summer. Previously known separately as the Rape Crisis Center and the Office of Prevention Services, the team now operates under one name: Prevention, Advocacy & Resource Center. Within PARC two “teams” still exist—an advocacy team and a prevention team, led by two professional staff people: Sarah Berg, Director, and Vilma Uribe, Survivor Advocate.

Highlights from the year include a huge increase in the number of folks accessing both our advocacy and our prevention services. We also hosted a number of great events, many of which are designed to become annual staples. Some examples include co-sponsoring *Breaking the Silence: Confronting Domestic Violence in LGBTQIA Communities*, raising awareness with an outdoor display during October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, debuting Media Literacy workshops, six events in the Wellness Wednesday self-care series, and a huge showing for Denim Day! We also worked hard to better reach graduate students, international students, club leaders, and student athletes this year and supported the campus’s second ever Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Violence, the results of which will be released in Fall 2020.

Above, right: Purple flags planted in Fellow’s Garden raised awareness of the prevalence of dating and domestic violence for college students. Above: A collage of students, faculty, and staff wearing denim for Denim Day, a national campaign that challenges victim-blaming myths during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
More students are using our services. After a sharp drop in clients during a year of under-staffing and difficult transition in 2017-2018, our client numbers (in-person and via hotline, combined) have risen to above any previous year. We attribute this increase to the return of a full-time Survivor Advocate and better community awareness of our services. We anticipate it will continue to rise.

The Violence Prevention Education team, formerly known as Bystander Trainers, took on the many new responsibilities this semester that came with their new titles: Violence Prevention Educators. These facilitators have worked hard to update content and be responsive to community feedback and needs. In Spring 2019 we launched a new version of Bystander Training: Transitioning into the Workplace and in Fall 2019 we’ll be launching Bystander Training: The Cycle of Violence.

Some feedback from participants this year:

“I enjoyed the interactive aspects and how the training was tailored to us.”

“I am really glad that this training has been restructured to include intersectionality.”

“The activities were a great way to practice our skills right away.”

**defined as a training at least 30 minutes long. Most trainings are 75 minutes.”