Other Endorsements:
What other FGCU students, faculty, and staff are saying about

Prevention & Wellness
Florida Gulf Coast University
“We feel very blessed to have such an outstanding Prevention & Wellness Department here at FGCU. With annual pro-active communications to our Head Coaches, Administrative Staff, and Student-Athlete leaders regarding the many terrific wellness services at their disposal through Prevention & Wellness, Student Health and CAPS, we are indeed very fortunate to have Priya Thomas and her colleagues available to assist if and whenever necessary. We are also appreciative of the time and professional advice that we receive from members of the P&W staff on our standing Athletics Health & Wellness Committee (AHWC) which promotes educational programming that focuses on the physical, psychological, and social health of the student-athlete at FGCU.”

- Ken Kavanagh, Director of Athletics
“I would like to thank Priya Thomas for coming to my course and speaking on the topic of “Health Promotion/Social Norms approaches” for my graduate course in Human Sexuality for Counselors during the spring 2012 semester. Priya provided an excellent, professional overview of health promotion techniques and philosophies and shared specific campaigns used by her office to illustrate her points. The students gained a great deal from this presentation that is immediately useful as they go out to internship sites and provide services to counseling clients. It is gratifying to know that FGCU hires personnel who are very current and up-to-date in their training and interventions, providing valuable services for students on campus.”

- **Signe M. Kastberg, PhD, NCC, LMHC**
  Assistant Professor, Counseling, College of Education
“As Director of Health Services at FGCU I've experienced first hand the importance of the services provided by Prevention and Wellness. Some of the most important things our students learn are presented by Prevention and Wellness through innovative, creative, and effective programs. The knowledge instilled by these programs enriches and protects our students. I believe that Prevention and Wellness provides a critical portion of an FGCU education.”

- Kevin Collins, MD, Director of Student Health Services
“The Office of Student Involvement is very appreciative of the collaborative relationship that we continue to have with the Office of Prevention and Wellness. Throughout the year, our offices work together to provide students with education, information, trainings, workshops, and interactive programs that help them to make smarter decisions while in college.

A few of the programs we partner with throughout the year are the Responsible Host Workshop where we utilize TIPS certified trainers to educate students on how to successfully host events with alcohol, the annual Alcohol Speaker that draws a crowd of 750+ each year, and National Hazing Prevention Week, a week full of interactive and educational programs aimed to educate students on the dangers of hazing.

Prevention and Wellness staff have also assisted with many events including the Programming Board’s Week of Welcome Headphone Disco as well as facilitated many workshops and programs for our student organizations, including the Greek Programming Council, Registered Student Organizations, and individual fraternity and sorority chapters. We look forward to continued partnerships with Prevention and Wellness this year.”

- *Julie Gleason, Assistant Dean of Students*
“Eagle View Orientation is thankful for the opportunities to work and partner with Prevention & Wellness. They have played an important part in providing our Orientation Leaders and Parent Program Assistants with essential information needed to pass on to incoming students and their families. Some of this information includes, TIPS training, mystudentbody.com, and other wellness resources. Additionally, Prevention & Wellness regularly participates in our EVO Resource Fairs to reach out and communicate with our incoming students and families about the resources that are available to them. It is wonderful to have a department on campus that cares and focuses on the health and wellbeing of our students.”

• **Valerie Garcia-Rea, Assistant Director of New Student Programs and Director of Eagle View Orientation**
Substance Abuse Counselor

“As the Substance Abuse Counselor at FGCU, I have the unique opportunity to collaborate with Prevention & Wellness on a weekly basis. I tell students this is the FUN part of my job. I get to create programming, connect with student groups & organizations, and provide education about alcohol and drugs in a really fun and interactive way. I am also invited to be a trainer for their Peers CARE staff; I provide select trainings for our peer educators about alcohol and other drugs so they can be equipped to do programming on these topics. P&W offers so many great services and I take pride in being a part of this Department.”

• Kelly Rubin, M.A., L.M.H.C., C.A.C., Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) and Prevention & Wellness
“The Prevention & Wellness Team provide exceptional programs that engage and educate students on a variety of topics that promote health and well-being. As the Director of the CAA and instructor, it is a benefit to have Priya and her Peers CARE Team available to provide class presentations on focused on topics such as stress management, nutrition, alcohol and drug awareness, and relationships. The Prevention & Wellness Team are truly innovative in their outreach to students, which is definitely an asset to the FGCU campus community.”

• *Stacey Parker, Director, The Center for Academic Achievement, and Adjunct Instructor for the classes of University Transition and Effective Learning*
Assistant Director of Programs, Campus Recreation

“I would like to thank Priya, Nikki, and the whole Prevention and Wellness team for collaborating with Campus Recreation to organize our first Puppy Palooza event. This event was a success thanks to their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the FGCU community. I believe it’s important to build relationships and collaborate with other departments when possible, so I appreciate their willingness work with us in providing top notch programs to our students.”

• Robbie Bell, Assistant Director of Programs, Campus Recreation
“As a faculty member, administrator, and engaged RSO advisor, I find the Prevention & Wellness programming on our campus to be top notch, current, and relevant to our students. The scope of their initiatives – from body image health awareness to combatting stress during exam periods — has significant and positive (and measurable!) impacts on students. As someone who has worked for a long time on sexual assault education and prevention (at FGCU and elsewhere), the staff at P&W are critical partners on this issue; we have worked closely on this and other gender-related concerns over several years. Priya and her staff are outstanding. I have a great deal of respect for their work, and am grateful for their commitment to improving the quality of FGCU students' lives.”

- **Kris De Welde, Director of General Education; Undergraduate Studies, Associate Professor, Sociology; Advisor, Gender Equality Organization**
“Prevention and Wellness puts on different programming events that our Student Government enjoys taking part in! One of our favorite events this past Spring was the Puppy Palooza. This event took place at a perfect time for our Senate Executive Committee because not only was it finals week, but we were all transitioning into our new leadership positions. Puppy Palooza was a great way for us to relax and put our stress aside and bond as a team. Peers CARE also came in and presented in Senate on different things they do to educate Florida Gulf Coast University students on health and wellness information. We are looking forward to working with Prevention and Wellness and attending more events in the future!”

• Lisa Ray, Student Government Senate President, 2014-2015
Have an endorsement for P&W?

• If you have worked with Prevention & Wellness and would like to share an endorsement to be included here, please email it to Priya Thomas, pthomas@fgcu.edu. If you would like to make a program request, please visit our website.

• What to include: The names of any P&W staff you enjoyed working with to coordinate your presentation/event, program title, name of the presenter, specific things about the program your group enjoyed and/or your overall experience working with Prevention & Wellness. Please include your full name, title and year(s) you held the position.