



**Voices of Strength:**  
**Sexual, Gender, and Intimate Partner Violence Peer Educators**

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of Voices of Strength! Muhlenberg College's Department of Prevention Education (DPE) provides students in good standing the opportunity to serve as peer educators. This organization is designed to be driven by a diverse cohort of students whose mission is to spread awareness and promote healthy attitudes with respect to sexuality and gender equity. Voices of Strength aids the Department of Prevention Education in its goal of elimination of sexual, gender, and intimate partner violence on campus.

Additional goals of DPE include:

- Promoting healthy sexual attitudes and behaviors, encouraging enthusiastic consent, and the ability to pursue pleasure for its own sake (Hedgepeth & Helmich, 1996, p. 2).
- Honoring the personal choices and orientations of all students, including those who have sex and those who do not have sex.
- Embracing a growth mindset, challenging ourselves to see those who may unknowingly cause harm as being capable of learning, while addressing the needs of survivors so that they can heal and feel whole.
- Equipping students with the knowledge and tools to be able to recognize and intervene in the cases of sexual, gender, and relationship-based violence.

All members must complete 32 hours of mandatory training which happen over the course of four 8-hour weekend meetings and/or retreats throughout the year, attend a 60-minute weekly group meeting, and attend and promote all mandatory DPE events.

There are two steps to the application process. The first step is completion and submission of the application. Applications are received on a rolling basis throughout the year. The second step of the application process is scheduling and attending an interview. Once you submit your application, you will be emailed a confirmation and link to schedule an interview with Jules Purnell, Associate Director of Prevention Education, and members of VOS. If you are selected as a VOS member, you will receive notification and be invited to attend training. You must attend the entire 32 hours of training to be accepted. Please see the training schedule below for dates and times.



Again, thank you for your interest in being a Voices of Strength Peer Educator. Should you have any additional questions, please contact the Department of Prevention Education at by phone at 484-664-3186 or by email at [julespurnell@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:julespurnell@muhlenberg.edu).

Sincerely,

**Jules Purnell, M.Ed**

(pronouns: they/them/theirs)



Associate Director of Prevention Education

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