



The Lindsey M. Bonistall Foundation

PEACE OUTside Campus

The Lindsey M. Bonistall Foundation



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The Beginning

Lindsey Marie Bonistall was a 20-year-old sophomore journalism major at the University of Delaware. In the early hours of May 1, 2005, Lindsey was a victim of a violent crime in her off-campus apartment that took her life.





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PEACE OUTside Campus

P Prevention
E Education
A Advocacy
C Certified Off-Campus Housing
E Empowerment
O Off-Campus Safety
U University Collaboration
T Trusted Resource



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Mission Statement

PEACE OUTside Campus, The Lindsey M. Bonistall Foundation is dedicated to promoting peaceful and safe living environments in off-campus college communities nationwide.

Our goal is to empower students and their families to be more proactive in safeguarding themselves against those who perpetuate crime and violence. Rather than creating a culture of fear, we strive to reinforce a sense of empowerment, strength, and security.



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Our Programs

In addition to supporting programs that promote safety, PEACE OUTside Campus, The Lindsey M. Bonistall Foundation has created its own unique programs:

- **Living Off-Campus 101**
- **Certified Off-Campus Housing (COCH)**
- **Teens 'N Transition (TNT)**
- **PEACE OUTside Campus Chapters**
- **Internet Resources (Website)**



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Living Off-Campus 101

Students living off-campus are faced with important safety decisions on a daily basis. Without the added security of schools to assist and insulate them, these students are targets for violence and crime because criminals often prey on their feelings of invincibility and their general lack of knowledge about the towns and cities surrounding their college campuses.

Living Off-Campus 101 aims to educate individuals living off campus with the necessary safety knowledge that includes crime prevention and personal safety tips and is an excellent resource for students and parents.

Living Off-Campus 101 is available on our website and includes safety tips on:

Personal Safety ♦ Safety In Your Apartment ♦ Looking For A Place To Live



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Living Off-Campus 101

Safety In Your Apartment

- Know your roommates security habits. You are only as safe as your roommates allow you to be
- Establish good relationships with your landlord and neighbors
- Provide emergency contact information to your neighbor
- ALWAYS lock your door. Whether you are with someone or alone. Even if you are only home briefly, lock the door.
- Use the peephole to determine who is at the door before opening. If you are unsure, question the person further. Never unlock the door if you are not comfortable with the visitor. Even if they are there to visit your roommate.
- Never prop doors open for friends or delivery people.



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Living Off-Campus 101

Safety In Your Apartment

- Never leave your keys outside your residence, such as under a doormat or in a place accessible to a stranger.
- If you lose your keys, work with the landlord to replace your locks.
- Always insist your landlord repair any broken locks, windows, and doors immediately.
- Keep ground level windows closed and always use a safety lock.
- Keep garbage cans and boxes away from windows so they cannot be used as stepladders.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers near the phone or refrigerator, such as the local police and fire departments.
- Know where your emergency exits are located and plan alternative evacuation routes in case of an emergency.
- Check smoke detectors every month. If there is no smoke detector, ask your landlord to install one. Replace the batteries when you change the clocks for daylight savings



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Living Off-Campus 101

Personal Safety

- Trust your instincts and don't worry about overreacting. You are better safe than sorry.
- Know where to get crime alerts and safety information for off-campus housing.
- Schools are not obligated by law to report crimes against students in off campus areas so information on school-related crime statistics may be misleading.
- Do not walk alone after dark.
- Take a self-defense class.
- When driving, keep your doors locked and park in well-lit areas.
- Don't walk around alone when intoxicated.
- Walk in well-lit areas and stay away from alleys, entryways and bushes where someone could be hiding.
- Do not walk or jog alone after dark.
- Do not wear earphones or play music so loudly that you are unaware of your surroundings.



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Living Off-Campus 101

Personal Safety

- If confronted, make a scene, and make lots of noise to draw attention to yourself and the other person.
- If someone is following you in a car, turn around and walk in the opposite direction. If that person persists, record the license number and call the Police immediately. Get to an area where there are other people around.
- Avoid short cuts. Walk where there are other people present.
- Have your keys ready before you reach the door.
- Avoid entering elevators with strangers. When this is unavoidable, stand by the control panel and if confronted in a threatening way, push the emergency alarm and all the floor buttons. Don't press the stop button.
- Post the local police and fire departments' numbers by every phone, near the refrigerator and/or program them into your cell phone.
- In your cell phone or by your home phone label your emergency contacts as ICE (In Case of Emergency), and in the event of an emergency, officials will know whom to contact for important personal or medical information



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Certified Off-Campus Housing Program

Certified Off-Campus Housing Program (COCH) was established to improve safety and security for students and residents living in off-campus housing facilities. This program was developed in collaboration with law enforcement and fire safety professionals and adds a secondary level of security measures designed to enhance existing practices.

COCH Program benefits:

- Students – safer living environment in the community
- Landlords – reduced liability & insurance rates, free marketing
- Administrations – simplified referral process for students living off campus
- Municipalities – crime reduction, safeguards for residents

Iona Certified Properties – 48 Coligni Ave, New Rochelle



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Questions

- **For more information visit our website:**
www.peaceoutsidecampus.org
- **Crime stats for colleges:**
www.securityoncampus.org
- **Crime stats for cities/towns: FBI Uniform Crime Reports** ***www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm***