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RED FLAG CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY

Asculpture at Skagit Valley College holds a red flag in honor of the Red Flag Campaign, a nationwide effort to educate people on college campuses about dating violence. The campus will host informational tables on the topic through Thursday. "Sometimes people just need a friend to step in and say, 'Hey, that's not OK,'" said Leah Chamberlain, a Western Washington University student who organized the event at Skagit Valley College where she works in the counseling office. According to a 2011 college dating violence and abuse poll from Break The Cycle, 57 percent of college students who report having been in an abusive dating relationship said it occurred in college, and 38 percent of college students say they don't know how to get help for themselves on campus if they are victims of dating abuse.

More than half of all college students, or 57 percent, say it's difficult to identify dating abuse. The campaign aims to make people more aware of the "red flags," or warning signs, associated with dating violence and feel comfortable saying something about it if they see it happening in friends' relationships.



Scott Terrell / Skagit Valley Herald