

KEY TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

Also see CKI Series Number 8, "Key to College Program Information" at www.circlek.org.

Purpose

The Key to College Program is meant to encourage high school students (especially Key Club members) in attending college. The program will assist the students in selecting a college and making the transition to college life.

Benefits of the Program

Sponsoring a Key to College can benefit Circle Kers and Key Clubbers in several ways:

- It lets Circle Kers give their real world experiences of college life to prospective college students. Circle Kers can give the high school students some helpful hints about what to expect when they get to campus.
- It can help to expand K-Family ties between the two K-Family organizations.
- It can lead to future Circle Kers---at your college or another campus chapter that has a Circle K. The students will know what Circle K is, and look for it once on campus.

Planning a Model Circle K Program / Helpful Hints

- The program may be initiated by either the Circle K club, Key Club, or high school administration.
- April is Key to College Month. This would be a wonderful time to sponsor a Key to College event.
- A Key to College program could be held in either the fall or spring semesters. If it is held in the fall, plan a program that includes information on what different kinds of colleges exist and how to choose one. If it is held in the spring, consider incorporating information on things students should expect when they arrive at school
- There are several kinds of formats and workshop topics that can be used for this program.
- Involve many club members to get different kinds of stories from people with different backgrounds.
- A Key to College program could be held at the high school. This might lead to a higher turnout of high school students, and it is at a familiar place. Conversely, a Key to College program could be held at the university, where the high school students can get a taste of college life.
- Consider planning a College Visit Day, where you invite high school students to shadow a Circle K student throughout the day. This allows the high school students to see the dining halls, residence halls, classrooms, libraries and recreational space.
- Several campuses offer specialty tours for groups wishing to tour the college. It might be nice to take the prospective students on an official tour. It might also be nice to have the Circle Kers give a tour of the campus.
- Be prepared to talk about any "sensitive issues" that might come up, such as alcohol, crime, etc.

Program Objectives

- To increase K-Family Relations between Key Club and Circle K
- To meet people with similar interests and develop friendships