



Brian C. Alley, Executive Director  
Sam Spady Foundation  
P.O. Box 275  
Newburgh, IN 47629

31 March 2010

Dear Mr. Alley,

I would like to thank you for speaking at Western Illinois University on March 10, 2010 about the unfortunate death of Sam Spady. Sam's story is heartbreaking but eye-opening and all students need to hear it. Your presentation caught the full attention of the students in attendance, and they continue to talk about the story today with their peers.

Alcohol abuse is a topic that is often avoided, but a topic that is crucial to helping our students grow, develop, and make wise decisions. The Sam Spady Story is one that students were able to relate to, and they could see a bit of themselves in Sam. Fortunately, through your speech, you were able to reach out to those students before they made a life-threatening decision.

As we prepared to depart for Spring Break, the speech was very timely, and you addressed the issues students might face in their Spring Break celebrations. Brian, you presented your speech in such an appropriate manner for college students to listen to and actually *hear* what you were saying. The students never felt like they were being preached at, rather, they were learning about the unfortunate fate of a beautiful young girl, very similar to themselves.

The Western Illinois Students in attendance left feeling empowered to create change, and armed with the knowledge necessary to recognize the signs of alcohol poisoning, and ultimately, save a life. The wallet cards are very useful for students to refer to, should they forget what they learned from your presentation. Also, the "Who's Looking Out For You?" posters helped students recognize that they should always have someone watching out for them, with their best interests in mind, and that they should serve as that person for their friends.

I cannot express enough the gratitude I have for you and the rest of the Sam Spady Foundation for the

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awareness you are creating on college campuses. Helping students realize how precious their lives are is one of the most important messages we can convey, and you did so perfectly! We look forward to hosting you at Western Illinois University again in the future and wish you the best of luck in all your endeavors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allyson Randolph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allyson N. Randolph  
Graduate Assistant for Programming, Office of Student Activities  
Western Illinois University

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