



SIBS AND KIDS: SHAPING TOMORROW FOR OUR YOUNGEST FAMILY MEMBERS

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WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR SIBLING PROGRAMMING?

When students go off to college, it is a transition for the entire family. Orientation, Parent/Family Weekend, parent newsletters, and other resources help parents and college students with the transition to college life, but what about younger siblings at home? How are they feeling? What questions do they have?

- 1) Opportunity to share campus life with brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, cousins, or family friends
- 2) Experience “a day in the life of a college student.”
- 3) One-on-one time and special bonding time
- 4) Encourage younger children to think about attending college when they get older and motivate them to do well in school.
- 5) Help your Admissions office with recruitment efforts
- 6) Market your college campus and your department to the community
- 7) Great way to give back to your community and a lot of fun, too!

SIBLING PROGRAMMING GOALS



- ❖ Opportunity for students to spend quality time with their siblings and share their school spirit with brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, cousins or family friends.
- ❖ Programming allows sib to create special memories with their student and spend much needed quality time with them
- ❖ Sibling programming allows our office to market to families that the entire family is valued.
- ❖ An opportunity for the University to reach out to students' families in a new and exciting way affirming our commitment to involving their families in the campus community.



SIBLING PROGRAMMING OUTCOMES

- ❖ Students will have fun and feel pride in showing their sibling(s) the campus community.
- ❖ Siblings will identify more with their student's college campus due to the program activities and schedule.
- ❖ Relationships between students, siblings, and other family members will be enhanced.
- ❖ The campus will be promoted to potential prospective students.
- ❖ Parents will feel more connected to the college as we continue to demonstrate all members of the family are welcomed on campus.



HISTORY OF SIBS PROGRAMMING

- Ohio State has offered Sibs programming since the early to mid 1980's
- Residence Hall based and planned by hall councils
 - Individuals in that building
 - Very decentralized
- Involvement of RHAC and centralization of programming
- Involvement of other student organizations (Activities Board)
- Parent Association involvement since the early 2000s
- Fully centralized model
 - Though retains elements of origins
- Evolved to students, faculty, staff and their family/friends

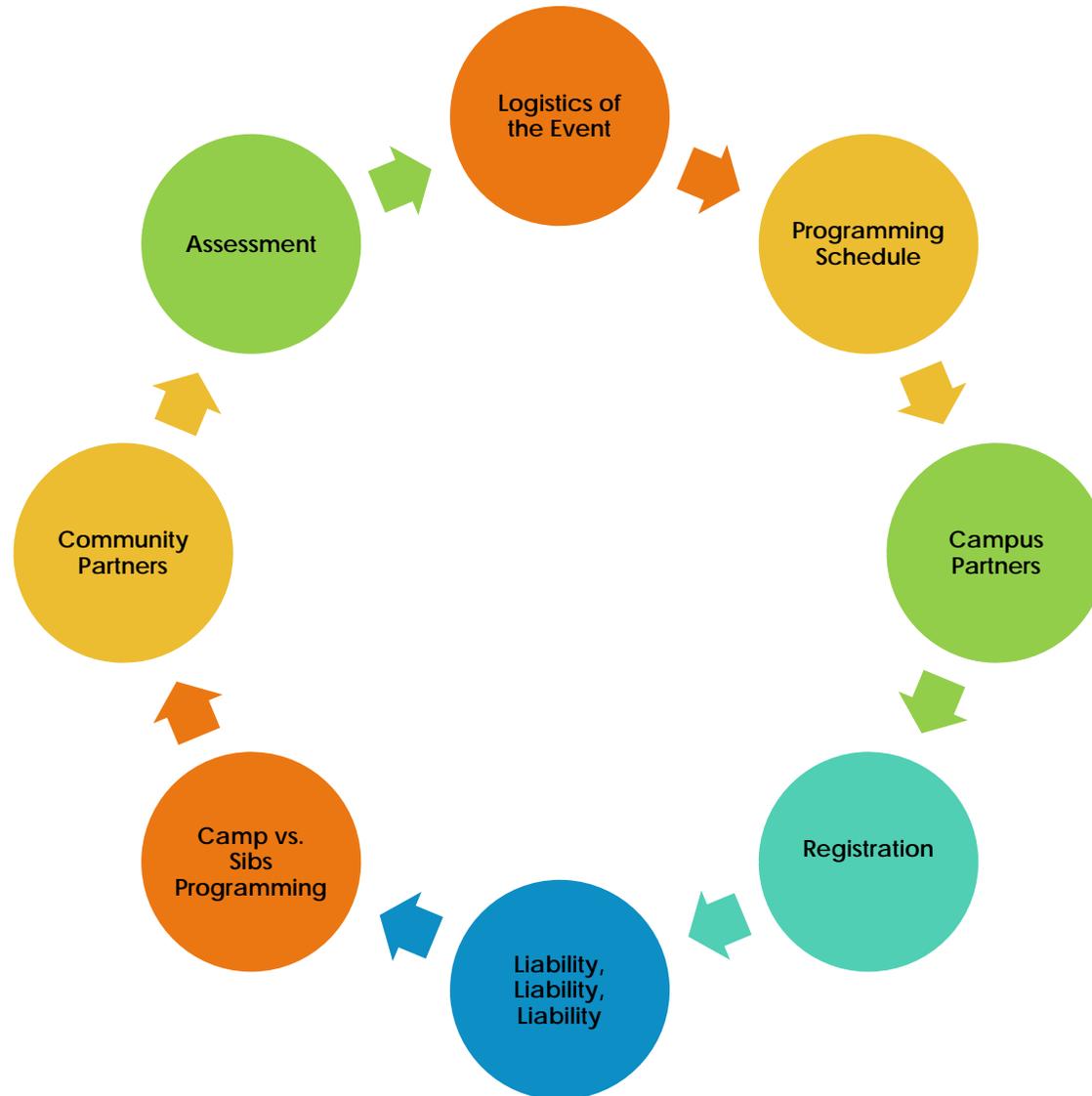


HISTORY OF SIBS DAY AT GEORGIA TECH

- Georgia Tech piloted Sibs Day in February 2015
- Only for Georgia Tech students and their family/friends
- Parents Program based
 - Centralized
 - Campus-Wide Involvement
- Athletics, Admissions, Student Life, Faculty & Staff, Residence Hall Association, and Campus Recreation
- In our pilot year we had 300 attend.



CREATING SIBLING PROGRAMMING ON YOUR CAMPUS





LOGISTICS

- Create a Pilot Proposal (to ensure you have campus approval)
- Time of Year?
 - Overlap with a Family Weekend or separate from it?
 - Separate from Parent/Family Weekend due to work load
 - Adding to a different time of year also allows families that were not able to come to your Family event in the fall, to perhaps come to a Sibs program.
- Who is invited?
 - Do you want students their family members or faculty, staff, students and alumni to be able to attend with their children? Can graduate students attend?
 - What age groups are you inviting? 12-17? 7-17?
- How long?
 - Do you want to have it over a weekend or just a one day model?
 - Liability plays into this, especially because of overnight accommodations.



PROGRAMMING MODELS

- After determining how many days your program will be, what does your program model look like?
- What is your mission and how are you achieving it through programming?
- Is everyone following the same schedule?
- Are there “signature” programs?
- Is it an ala carte model, attending what you want?
- Who is sponsoring the program?
- Diversifying the programming for different ages?
- How much are you trying to offer?
- Balancing fun and educational programming?



CAMPUS PARTNERS

Who can you work with on campus for programming, events, funding?

- Academic Departments
- Admissions
- Athletics
- Student Organizations
- Residence Life
- Recreational Sports
- Student Activities Board
- Wellness Center
- Planetarium
- Veterinary Medicine
- Campus Dairy Farm
- Campus Bookstore
- Parking and Transportation
- Special Events Office
- Greek Life
- Office of International Education
- Career Services
- Alumni Affairs
- Campus Outreach/Educational

REGISTRATION



- Are you placing limitation on registrants?
 - Number of guests?
- Can parents or family members attend with the Sibbs?
- How much are you going to charge? Do students need to pay? Do parents need to pay?
- Do those who register get something?
 - Shirt, Sling backpack, cups, other?
- Do they get access to something? A game or Rec Center?



LIABILITY, LIABILITY, LIABILITY

- What is your university's stance on waivers?
 - Is a waiver all inclusive or do you need different ones for different events?
- What activities on the schedule may need a waiver?
 - If Sibs are using recreation centers, do they need waivers?
 - Are there tours or activities that require a waiver?
 - Who is allowed to sign the waivers? Can it be the Sib or does it need to be the parent
- Photography/Model Release Form/Waiver

CAMP VS. SIBS PROGRAMMING

KNOW YOUR CAMPUS MINORS POLICIES

- Many universities have created policies for events with minors
 - Often applied to overnight campus or summer camps but may apply to your Sibs event
- Does your campus have such policies? Do they apply to you?
- What trainings must be done to comply with this policy
 - Volunteer trainings
 - May depend on type of volunteer activities



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Who can you work with in the campus area for events?

- Local Sports Team
- Zoo, Science Centers, Museums
- Community Service Organizations
- Shopping Trips

Who can you reach out to for sponsorships?

- Local Restaurants for food donations
- Alumni owned businesses
- Businesses that are geared to children
- Campus Bookstore for giveaways



ASSESSMENT

Georgia Tech's Sibs Day 2015 Results:

- 1) The vast majority of parents (95%) reported that Sibs Day **enhanced the relationship(s)** between their older and younger sibling(s).
- 2) When asked, "To what extent do you think your **Sibs Day participant has a better idea of what their older sibling is doing in college?**" almost all parents (92%) reported that their younger child has a better idea of what their older sibling is doing at college; and that **they have a better idea of what college is like (92%)**.
- 3) As a result of Sibs Day, 94.2% of **siblings reported being more excited about going to college**.

From GT Parents:

"GT is all he can talk about now. He loved hanging out with "real" students and being on a college campus. He really wants to be a Yellow Jacket!"

"I had no idea how much my younger child was missing my older child until after she came back from Sibs Day. Thank you!"

From a GT Student:

"Sibs Day was GREAT! I hope everyone with siblings gets to experience it at least once. Thank you for the opportunity to show my sibling what Tech has to offer!"



SIBS DAY VIDEO

<http://parents.gatech.edu/sibsdays/content/14/sibs-day-2015>





OTHER TIPS AND ADVICE

1. Family event = Mobile crowd since parents have cars
2. Sibs event = captive audience as most sibs do not have vehicles
3. Don't doubt the "cool" or "wow" factor of programming
4. All campuses have hidden gems that are cost effective. Use those!

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