PART OF LIFE:  
SOCIAL JUSTICE + SUSTAINABILITY

The University of Arizona Residence Life has a strong commitment to social justice and sustainability. All of our programs and events should model what it means to be inclusive and environmentally conscious.

Consider these questions as you build community:

SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMING CHECKLIST

✔️ Do I have a convenient recycling receptacle at every program – am I informing residents where it is?

✔️ Am I communicating sustainable practices to program attendees (e.g. explaining what was purchased that can be recycled, or the reasons the event has a low environmental impact)?

✔️ Am I buying locally produced food and goods and/or am I purchasing food from local businesses?

✔️ When appropriate, am I buying raw or unprocessed food? Bulk or minimally packaged?

✔️ Am I buying fair trade items? Organic?

✔️ Am I asking residents to bring their own (or providing) reusable plates, cups, silverware, etc?

✔️ Can my event be vegetarian?

✔️ Am I demonstrating sustainable practices in advertising (e.g. using the backs of old advertisements, making one big poster instead of small fliers, using social media, etc.)?

✔️ Am I purchasing only what will be used? Am I reusing the leftovers?

✔️ Am I only purchasing what I really NEED – do I need those unrecyclable, plastic “mementos”?

INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING CHECKLIST

✔️ What day and time are my residents available? Am I sure the time is convenient for them?

✔️ Am I interacting with ALL residents at the program – not just the students I know and the other organizers?

✔️ When advertising for the program, are all types of people represented in images – ability, body size, racial diversity, same sex couples, etc.?

✔️ Are there any holidays my residents celebrate that I need to be sure to schedule around and/or for?

✔️ Did I assess the accessibility of my program and the programming space itself? Am I engaging different learning styles? Will those with mobility impairments be able to move easily throughout the program, etc?

✔️ Do my residents have any dietary restrictions I need to account for?

✔️ Are the majority of my programs or sponsored hall amenities free or low-cost?

✔️ Am I personally inviting ALL of my residents to my programs, not just the ones I am closest to?

✔️ Am I clearly advertising what the program is for, especially if the topic may be triggering for participants? No “bait and switch!”

✔️ Am I aware of the assumptions I may be making about the kinds of programs my residents enjoy – e.g. all men love sports, etc.?