# Supporting Students: Mental Health on Campus

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# What is your role?

### Recognize

- Learn the signs of distress
- Observe signs of distress in residents

### Respond

- Learn how to reach out to students who are struggling
- Learn to effectively support and communicate with students in distress
- Know your responsibilities (mandated reporting)

#### Refer

- Become familiar with campus resources
- Learn how to refer students to services



# What your role is **NOT**

- Provide mental health treatment
- Diagnose a mental disorder
- Make decisions for students
- Get into arguments or power struggles
- Judge or invalidate the student's problems
- Always be available for the student in case of future distress or crises
- Pushing your own limits or causing yourself distress in trying to help others



Pain Isn't Always Obvious

# THESIGNS

Suicide Is Preventable.org

### IS PATH WARM?

American Association of Suicidology

1	Ideation
S	Substance Abuse
P	Purposelessness
Α	Anxiety
т	Trapped
н	Hopeless
W	Withdrawal
Α	Anger
R	Recklessness
M	Mood Change

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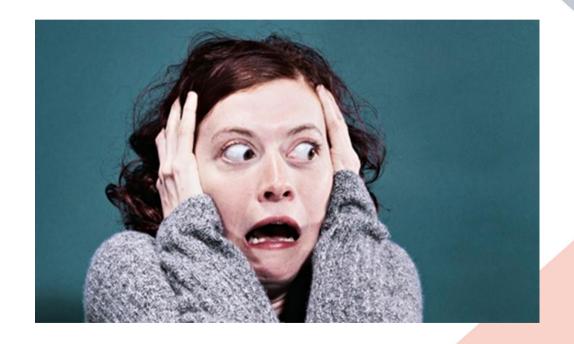
## Cultural Awareness

- UIUC is a very diverse place!
- It's important to be mindful of cultural differences in the ways students may experience or express their distress
- Race, gender, sexual orientation, cultural or religious backgrounds, and other forms of identity may all play a role in the student's experience and behavior
- Do not be afraid to ask questions





# What should I do if I encounter a student in distress??



### Responding to students in distress

- **Hear the Problem:** Stay calm, listen carefully, and be non-judgmental about the problems try to understand the problem from the student's perspective
- **Keep it Simple:** Be clear and direct in your communication
- **Be Honest:** Do not be afraid to express your concerns try to connect with the person in distress
- Ask to Help: Offer to help the person, provide referral information, take a collaborative approach but allow students to make their own decisions
- Follow Up: If appropriate, offer to remain in communication with the person as they seek help from a professional (be aware of healthy boundaries)



### Responding to students in distress

- Use active listening skills
- Validate the person's emotions
- Express empathy and concern
- Point out strengths
- Offer a sense of hope
- Encourage them to seek help from a mental health professional
- Refer to the Counseling Center
- Never promise confidentiality



### How to Refer Students for Therapy

- Engage in conversation with student about gaining additional support
- Give students information about how to schedule an appointment
- In an urgent situation, walk a student over to the Counseling Center.
- In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.

# What is the SIR Policy?

It is a policy that requires any student who threatens, attempts, or engages in a gesture of suicide to attend four sessions of professional assess ment to assess safety in campus environment.

A SIRF (or suicide incident referral form) is completed by a concerned third party. This SIRF is reviewed by the Counseling Center Suicide Prevention Team. The SIRF may be found on the Counseling Center website.

These sessions are completely confidential and are not a part of a student's academic record. They may be completed by licensed therapists on campus or in the community.

These professional assessment sessions are required and if not completed there will be steps taken by the Suicide Prevention Team that may include a "hold on academic accounts"

# The Counseling Center

- Initial appointment (same-day scheduling)
- Individual and group counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Triage and consultation
- Specialized assessments
- Referrals for private therapy
- Outreach and prevention
- Trauma response
- Educational workshops
- Self-help brochures and materials

Contact: (217) 333-3704





# Online Workshop Series

Online psychoeducational workshops offer students an opportunity to gain a variety of knowledge, skills, and awareness.

Check our website for the most up to date list.

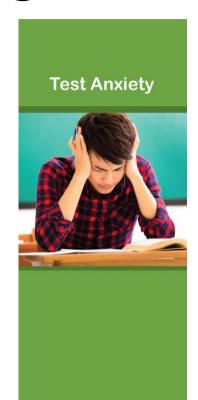
Tuesday@7 led by Paraprofessionals - go.illinois.edu/Tuesday\_7

Recognition, Insight, Openness (RIO) - go.illinois.edu/CC\_RIO

**Expressive Arts Drop-in Workshop (weekly) - go.illinois.edu/CC\_ExpArts** 

# Counseling Center Materials

- 29 Mental Health Brochures
- Counseling Center
   Informational Cards
  - Services
  - Outreach
  - Kognito
  - Group Counseling
- Can be requested through your liaison



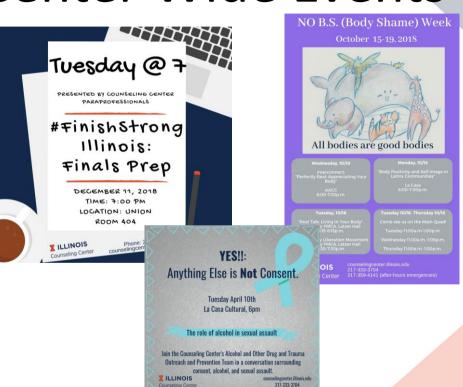








# Center Wide Events







# Requesting an Outreach

### counselingcenter.illinois.edu

- Go To website:
  - Click on Request a Workshop (bottom of page)
  - Fill out Workshop RequestForm

#### REQUEST A WORKSHOP

Workshops on Request usually last one to two hours and cover topics such as:

- Alcohol and other drugs
- Communication in relationships
- Eating disorders
- Intimacy
- Procrastination
- Self-confidence
- Stress management
- Study skills
- Test anxiety
- Time management

Workshops on Request can be requested by anyone for any type of student group and are facilitated by Counseling Center professional staff, graduate assistants, or paraprofessionals.

Workshops are not limited to these topics and can be developed towards your special interests or concerns.

If you would like to arrange for a workshop on request, follow these three steps:

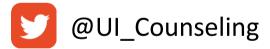
1. Complete Workshop on Request form a least two weeks before the workshop date.

# **Follow Us Online**

For updates to services, online outreach and prevention programming, and self-care strategies







/IllinoisCounselingCenter

counselingcenter.Illinois.edu

# **Reach Us Digitally**

Monday Through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

\*All Services Are Currently On-Line or Via Phone\*



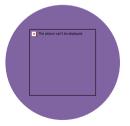
# **Kognito At-Risk Training**



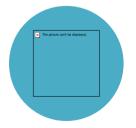
Recognize distress in others, intervene, and connect them with resourcs.



Modules for students and faculty/staff.



Modules specific to concerns of LGBTQ individuals and student veterans.



counselingcenter.illinois.edu

### Additional Resources

- Champaign County Crisis Line: 217-359-4141
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233
- National Suicide Hotline:
  - 800-273-TALK (8255)
  - www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
- LGBTQ+ National Hotline
  - **–** 888-843-4564
  - https://www.glbthotline.org/hotline.html
- COVID-19 Resources

https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/emergency/covid-19-resources