



SUICIDE PREVENTION & POSVENTION GUIDE

# TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY Suicide Prevention Plan

Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Memphis (TCAT-Memphis) is committed to the mental health wellness of our students, faculty and staff. As such, and in compliance with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-7-172, TCAT-Memphis has developed a suicide prevention plan that engages in a variety of initiatives to improve and provide crisis services.

TCAT-Memphis' Suicide Prevention Plan will be disseminated to faculty, staff, and students each academic term. The plan will be disseminated <u>each term via email, TCAT Memphis website, student handbook, and Alertus System.</u>

## Prevention

TCAT-Memphis has developed a comprehensive approach to increase mental health awareness though efforts of prevention.

#### Contact

TCAT-Memphis' contact for suicide prevention work is Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6137.

#### Prevention Components & Resources

Key components of TCAT-Memphis' suicide prevention work include:

- A suicide or mental health wellness syllabus statement included on Faculty Syllabi for all courses.
  - The realization that mental health is integral to overall health signals a fundamental change in our conceptualization of health - one that rejects the dualism of mind and body and realizes that the pursuit of health must be approached holistically by embracing a person's biology, psychology and social environment simultaneously.

(TCAT-Memphis) is committed to the mental health wellness of our students, faculty and staff. As such, and in compliance with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-7-172, TCAT-Memphis has developed a suicide prevention plan that engages in a variety of initiatives to improve and provide crisis services.

- Promotion of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Crisis Text Line, and campus/community resources are made available through:
  - o TCAT-Memphis' website www.tcatmemphis.edu , and
  - o though additional methods, such as orientation packets, wallet size flyers and brochures

- For immediate help contact the National Suicide Lifeline Number at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or Text "TN" to 741741 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also wish to contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press1) or Text 838255.
- Everifi Mental Well-being courses for students
- Utilizing community resources and agencies to provide prevention services for TCAT-Memphis community members, the institution has established relationships with the following local Mental Health facilities for the purpose of providing prevention education, training and/or prevention screenings].
  - Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network provides prevention education, training and/or prevention screenings.
  - Alliance Healthcare Mobile Crisis provides emergency crisis services.

#### Additional Information

Information regarding such relationships at TCAT-Memphis is available in the Administrative Office, Student Services Department, Faculty classrooms, and via the website at www.tcatmemphis.edu. All offices will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the TCAT-Memphis community which may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, training programs, etc. Any campus member interested in accessing the services/agencies and training noted above, or for more information about TCAT-Memphis' suicide prevention efforts should contact Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6137.

## Intervention

There is no typical suicidal person. No age group, ethnicity, or background is immune. Fortunately, many troubled individuals display behaviors deliberately or inadvertently signal their suicidal intent. Recognizing the <u>warning signs</u> (<u>http://tspn.org/warning-signs</u>) and learning what to do next may help save a life.

#### Contact

If someone exhibits behavioral patterns that may indicate possible risk for suicide, they should be watched closely. If they appear numerous or severe, seek professional help at once. **The National** Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) provides access to trained telephone counselors, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or the Crisis Text Line by texting TN to 741 741.

If a student, faculty, or staff member encounters a suicidal student, faculty, or staff member, the following individual should be contacted immediately:

Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6173.

Should the incident occur after hours, or the above noted individual is not available, the following should be contacted immediately:

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

If the suicidal person has plans and access to a lethal means, is planning to make an attempt very soon, or is currently in the process of making an attempt, this individual is in imminent danger and should not be left alone. Get the person help immediately. Determine who can get there quickly and keep the individual safe.

Should you have this concern, you should immediately call 9-1-1.

#### Intervention Resources

TCAT-Memphis has established relationships with the following local Mental Health facilities for the purpose of crisis referral services.

- o Alliance Healthcare provides mobile crisis services (901) 577-9400
- Crisis Intervention Team provides mobile crisis intervention (901)545-2677 ext. 0 and inform dispatch that the call is in reference to a mental consumer.

The safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff is of the utmost importance. In situations that require immediate action because of safety or other concerns, TCAT Memphis will take any reasonable administrative action or accommodation protocols that are appropriate.

#### Additional Information

Information regarding such relationships at TCAT-Memphis is available in the Student Services Department, Faculty classrooms, and via the website at www.tcatmemphis.edu. All offices will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the TCAT-Memphis community which may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, training programs, etc. Any campus member interested in more information about TCAT-Memphis' suicide intervention protocol should contact Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6137.

### Postvention

Because all student/faculty/staff deaths affect our community, whether that death is accidental, due to illness, or the result of self-inflicted injury, it important for TCAT-Memphis to respond to and recognize all deaths in a consistent manner. Campus leadership and the communications department developed a protocol that includes a campus response to a student/faculty/staff suicide to decrease the trauma experienced by the students and other campus community members left behind and to help prevent further suicides through contagion.

#### Contact

If a student, staff, or faculty member's death occurs by suicide, the following person, or their designee, should be notified immediately:

Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or <u>pam.farley@tcatmemphis.edu</u> Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6137 or <u>gwen.sutton@tcatmemphis.edu</u>

#### Postvention Components & Resources

TCAT-Memphis has established relationships with the following local Mental Health facilities for the purpose of working to decrease community trauma.

- Heare4TN EAP services for faculty and staff
- o Everifi Mental well-being courses for students

#### Additional Information

Information regarding such relationships at TCAT-Memphis is available in the Student Services Department, Faculty classrooms, and via the website at www.tcatmemphis.edu. All offices will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the TCAT-Memphis community which may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, training programs, etc. Any campus member interested in more information about TCAT-Memphis' suicide intervention protocol should contact Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton, Vice President at 901-543-6137.

## Comprehensive Response Protocol

TCAT-Memphis' comprehensive suicide prevention, intervention and postvention protocol is available to the campus community, campus administration, etc. For more information, please contact Pamela Farley, Executive Secretary at 901-543-6156 or Gwen Sutton at 901-543-6137.