



TCAT Northwest Suicide Prevention Plan

TCAT Northwest 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 Northwest has developed a suicide prevention plan that engages in a variety of initiatives to improve and provide crisis services. TCAT Northwest's Suicide Prevention Plan will be disseminated to faculty, staff, and students each academic term via the Catalog/Student Handbook, website and email.

Prevention

TCAT Northwest has developed a comprehensive approach to increase mental health awareness through efforts of prevention.

Contact

TCAT Northwest's contact for suicide prevention work is Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731- 627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

Prevention Components & Resources

Key components of TCAT Northwest's suicide prevention work include:

- A suicide or mental health wellness syllabus statement included on Faculty Syllabi for all courses:

TCAT Northwest is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at TCAT Northwest who is experiencing feelings of; being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help contact the National Suicide Lifeline Number 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 (press 1) or Text 838255.

- Promotion of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Crisis Text Line, and campus/community resources are made available through:
 - TCAT Northwest's website, tcatnewbern.edu, and
 - Though additional methods, such as flyers, posters, and orientation packets.
- Utilizing community resources and agencies to provide prevention services for TCAT Northwest community members. TCAT Northwest has established relationships with the following local Mental Health facilities for the purpose of providing prevention education, training and/or prevention screenings.

Professional Care Services of West Tennessee Inc.
2380 Henry Street
Dyersburg, TN 38024
1-844-727-2778

Additional Information

Information regarding such relationships at TCAT Northwest is available in the Vice President or Student Services Coordinator's Office. Both offices will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the TCAT Northwest 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 Newbern's suicide prevention efforts should Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731- 627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

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 [warning signs](http://tspn.org/warning-signs) (<http://tspn.org/warning-signs>) 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:

Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health
731-627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

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

Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731-445-3520
Dr. Youlanda Jones, President, 731-445-1501

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

340 Washington St. | Newbern, TN 38059 | 731-627-2511 | 731-627-2310 | www.tcatnorthwest.edu

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quickly and keep the individual safe. Should you have this concern, you should immediately call 9-1-1.

Intervention Resources

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

Professional Care Services of West Tennessee Inc.
2380 Henry Street
Dyersburg, TN 38024
1-844-727-2778

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 Northwest will take any reasonable administrative action or accommodation protocols that are appropriate. Such interim actions may include, but are not limited to: adjustments to schedules, ADA accommodations, adjustments of course, exam, schedules, facilitation of hold harmless voluntary withdrawals, incompletes, etc.

Additional Information

Information regarding such relationships at TCAT Northwest is available in the Vice President or Student Services Coordinator's Office. Both offices will have available a comprehensive list of partners and services available to members of the TCAT Northwest community. Any campus member interested in more information about TCAT Northwest's suicide intervention protocol should Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731- 627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

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 Northwest 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 death occurs by suicide, the following person, or their designee, should be notified immediately: Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731-627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

Postvention Components & Resources

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

Professional Care Services of West Tennessee Inc.
2380 Henry Street
Dyersburg, TN 38024
1-844-727-2778

Additional Information

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Comprehensive Response Protocol

TCAT Northwest's comprehensive suicide prevention, intervention and postvention protocol is available campus administration, faculty, staff, and students. For more information, please contact Erika Smith, Director of Nursing and Allied Health, 731- 627-2511 or erika.smith@tcatnorthwest.edu

Professional Care Services Contact Information: Appointment Line – 1-844-727-2778

Crisis Line – 1-800-353-9918 [Newbern](#)

[\(901\) 476-8967](#)

[Brownsville \(731\) 772-9002](#)

[Dyersburg \(731\) 287-1794](#)

[Somerville \(901\) 465-9831](#)

[Millington \(901\) 873-0305](#)

[Ripley \(731\) 635-3968](#)

Resources:

State of Tennessee

<https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/need-help/crisis-services/suicide-prevention1.html>

National Institute of Mental Health

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/index.shtml>

Erasing the Stigma of Mental Illness

<http://www.bringchange2mind.org/> National

Alliance on Mental Illness

<http://www.nami.org/>

Mental Health America <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net>

Support Groups

<http://www.adaa.org/finding-help/getting-support/support-groups>

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