

Final Assessment Report for Counseling Center and Residence Life Academic Year 2008-2009

Common Student Learning Goal Addressed	University document to which Learning Goal is tied	Student Learning, Customer Service/Satisfaction, or Process Objective	Program or Activity targeted to measure stated objective	Expected Outcome	Instrument Utilized	Actual Outcome, using metrics	Conclusions, Next Steps to integrate results (close the loop)
<p>Both Counseling Center and Residence Life CAS Standards require programmatic initiatives that address the development of social responsibility. This project aimed to enhance learning about a salient issue that requires an effective and collaborative response on the part of the University community. In addition, Counseling Services' CAS Standards also require efforts aimed at prevention of conditions that negatively influence students' well-being.</p>	<p>CAS Standards for both Residence life and Counseling Services</p>	<p>To increase Resident Directors' and Resident Assistants' awareness of statistics, facts, and warning signs of suicide, their understanding of appropriate responses to individuals in crisis, and their skills and comfort level in interacting with such students.</p>	<p>Resident Directors and Resident Assistants were trained by Counseling, Health & Wellness staff utilizing Campus Connect: A Suicide Prevention Training for Gatekeepers. The training consisted of a three-hour workshop that was presented during the Residence Life training sessions that occur prior to the start of the academic year.</p>	<p>Resident Directors and Resident Assistants will demonstrate improved ability to recognize an appropriate response to a person in crisis. They will also demonstrate increased knowledge, skills, and comfort level related to interacting with students in crisis.</p>	<p>Resident Directors and Resident Assistants were asked to complete the SIRI-2 and the SITA prior to the start of the Campus Connect Training. They completed the same two measures immediately following the completion of the training. The scores on the pre-tests were compared to the scores on the post-tests.</p>	<p>At both pre- and post-test, the RDs and RAs in our sample performed better, on average, on the SIRI-2 than the M.A.-level counselors who were included in Neimeyer and Bonnelle's (1997) study. The desired outcome was achieved in that the Residence Life staff demonstrated a significant increase in their mean scores on the SITA from pre-test to post-test. That is, the RDs and RAs demonstrated an increase in overall confidence in working with individuals in crisis as well as increased confidence in overall knowledge and familiarity with issues related to suicide.</p>	<p>Given these encouraging results, it was decided that the suicide prevention training would be continued with the Residence Life staff on an annual basis. During RD/RA training in August, all new RAs were trained using the full 3-hour workshop and the RDs and RAs who already completed the 3-hour training received an abbreviated refresher course.</p>