



Responding to Trauma & Crisis

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Trauma & Crisis

- ▶ What?
- ▶ When?
- ▶ Where?
- ▶ How?





Why relevant?

- ▶ 1,100 suicides at colleges per year.
 - ▶ 1 in 12 have actually made a suicide plan at some point.
 - ▶ 1.5 students out of 100 students have actually attempted suicide
 - ▶ Two times as many young men, ages 20-24 commit suicide compared to young women.
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Why suicide?

- Suicidal/homicidal correlation



Campus Life

- ▶ The emotional health of college freshmen has declined to the lowest in 25 years.
- ▶ Campus stress:
 - ▶ Competitiveness
 - ▶ Tuition
 - ▶ Acceptance rate
 - ▶ Campus crime
 - ▶ Economy



Campus Shootings

- ▶ 23 shootings on U.S. college campuses in 2015



Other Trauma and Crisis

- ▶ Accidents and Illness
- ▶ Campus Violence (other than shooting)
- ▶ Disasters
- ▶ Loss of Community Member





The Plan

- Prevention
 - Awareness
 - Assessment
 - Mitigation/Education
- Preparation
 - Planning
 - Preparation/Training
 - Crisis Communication Plan

- Response
 - Immediate actions to restore security and safety
- Recovery
 - Postvention
 - Crisis Team Support
 - Postincident analysis and evaluation
 - Revision of policies
 - Refresher training



What's
the
plan?

Grade card:

- Are you aware of a crisis plan for your institution?
- Does plan address all three stages?
- Does the plan identify who is responsible for what?
- Does the plan address common challenges?





References

- <http://www.collegedegreeesearch.net/student-suicides/>
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- Kerr, M.M. (2009). *School crisis prevention and intervention*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.