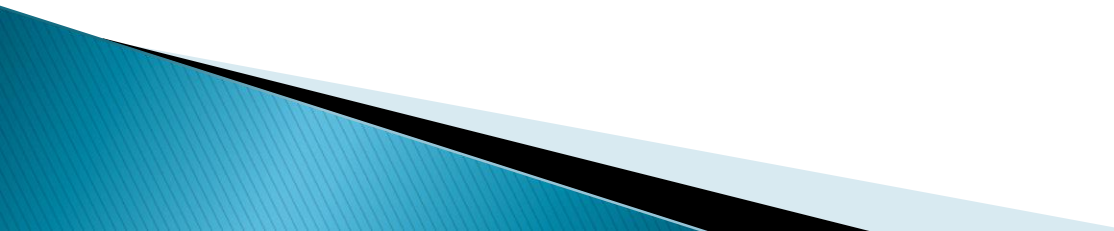


Counseling Referral *versus* ACT Reporting

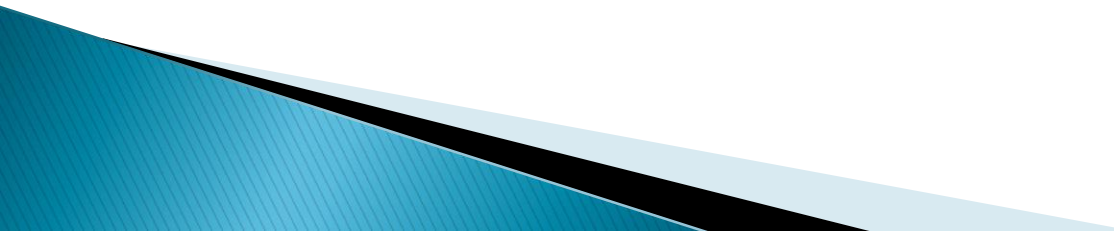
What is the difference?

Presented by Alvin Community College's
Assessment and Care Team (ACT) – 2019

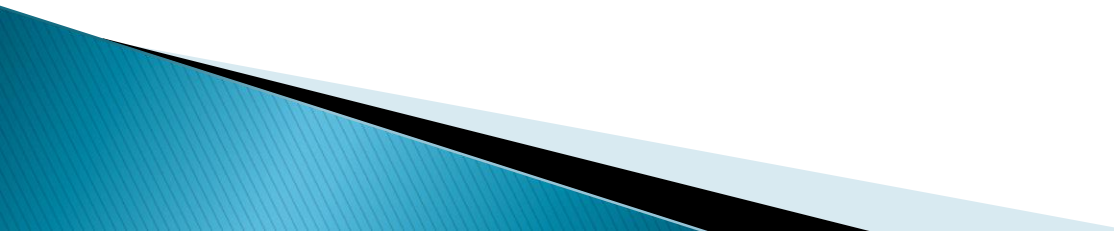
Overview

- ▶ Today, colleges are confronted with making difficult decisions about students or persons who may be distressed, suicidal, or threatening.
 - ▶ This number is increasing.
 - ▶ Today, colleges are taking a proactive approach in providing a system of referring, reporting and caring.
- 

Objectives

- Counseling issues/resources at ACC
 - Referring to Counseling Services
 - Reporting to the Assessment and Care Team (ACT) and Campus Police
 - Defining examples of behavior to refer or report
 - Resources
- 

Suicidal Ideation vs. Self Injury

- ▶ Self injury is a process by which individual's make themselves feel something. There is no single reason for why a person chooses to hurt themselves. The person might be dealing with a trauma, guilt, shame, etc. Self injury allows the individual to feel something when they feel numb or to relieve the pain that is overwhelming.
 - ▶ Self Injury is not an attempt to commit suicide.
- 


Suicidal Ideation vs. Self Injury

- ▶ Suicidal ideation is the thought of committing suicide.
- ▶ Suicide attempts are caused by a variety of reasons (psychological disorders, substance abuse, relationship & financial problems)

Counseling (Referral)


- ▶ In most student situations, care and concern will be enough to reassure the student, however, there will also be *non-threatening* student issues. You can make a referral to a Professional Counselor on campus.

Counseling Issues: Students


- ▶ Express no career direction
 - ▶ Display visible signs of self mutilation (cutting, burning, hair pulling)
 - ▶ Show grief and bereavement issues
 - ▶ Appear to be a victim of assault
 - ▶ Show visible signs of anxiety and/or depression
 - ▶ Show substance abuse or addiction problems
 - ▶ Appear to need resources for shelter and food
- 

Noticeable Issues


Instructor notices:

- ▶ Increasing withdrawal or isolation of a student
 - ▶ Increased disorganization and confusion;
unable to focus on topics
 - ▶ Outbursts of negative behaviors and/or crying
in the classrooms or hallways
 - ▶ Issues that are impacting their academic
success
- 

Counseling Resources

- ▶ Advising Services employs full-time Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC's)
 - ▶ LPC's assist students with personal issues that may impact their academic success
 - ▶ Counseling services include:
 - Career counseling and assessments
 - Crisis intervention and short-term personal counseling
 - Referrals to community resources
- 

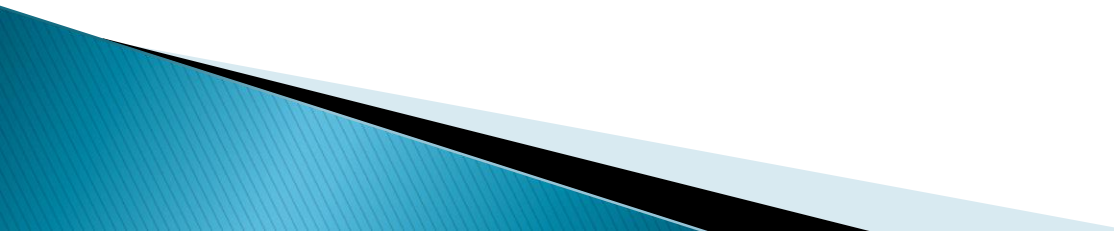
Student Consultation and Referral

- It is recommended to consult with a Counselor or Director of Advising if you find:
 - You are dealing with a student in distress with problems beyond your level of comfort;
 - The boundaries of your role make it unwise to work with students on personal issues;
 - The student declines the referral and you remain uneasy about the situation
- 

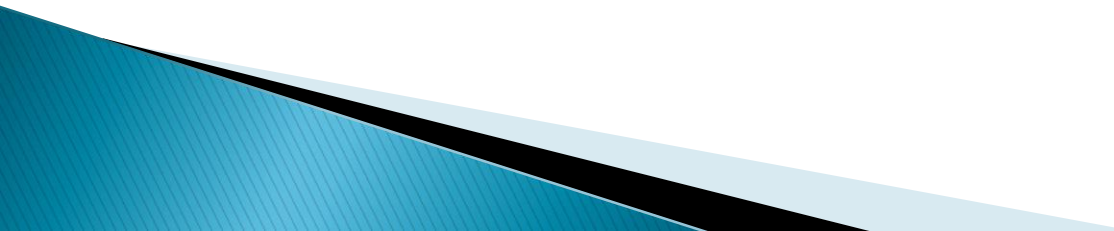
Resources in Advising

- Regan Metoyer Peterson, Director of Advising Services at 281-756-3527 or
- Diana Stiles, LPC at 281-756-3534
- ▶ A face-to-face consultation can be arranged

Immediate Assistance

- Faculty/staff are encouraged to walk a **distraught** student to the Advising Services department in Building A. Place a phone call first so counseling services can be in place.
 - For non-emergency situations, use the Counseling Referral form is located at:
 - This referral will be received in Advising Services once submitted.
- 


What is the Assessment and Care Team (ACT)?

- ▶ ACC's ACT is a multidisciplinary and multijurisdictional team that meets and communicates regularly.
 - ▶ The ACT is committed to improving community safety through a proactive, collaborative, coordinated, objective and thoughtful approach to the prevention, identification, assessment, intervention and management of situations that pose, or may reasonably pose, a threat to the safety and well being of the campus community.
- 

Reporting to the ACT

- ▶ Reporting to ACT plays a secondary role to all urgent circumstances and should be contacted only after initial emergency notifications are made.
- ▶ Alvin Community College ACT accepts reports regarding any individual or incident at any time through an [online referral form](#) for the Assessment and Care Team, direct email to: ACareTeam@alvincollege.edu, or by contacting the Alvin Community College Police Department at 281-756-3700.
- ▶ The ACT will evaluate the reported behaviors and put in place a course of action or intervention.
- ▶ Reporting persons of concern depends on all faculty and staff.

Report Unusual Behavior to ACT

- ▶ Erratic behavior that disrupts the normal operation of the college or your classroom
 - ▶ Strange or bizarre behavior including speech that is disjointed, slurred, fragmented and not based in reality
 - ▶ Clearly noticeable changes in behavior, dress or personality from what was typical or standard for that individual
 - ▶ The PERSON makes references verbally or written regarding suicide, homicide or death
- 

Reporting Emergencies

- ▶ Reporters must contact ACC's campus police (281-756-3700) and/or 911 IMMEDIATELY if the individual:
 - Poses an immediate threat to self or others
 - Experiences a medical emergency (e.g. seizure, loss of consciousness)

Examples: Action To Take

- Student has written in their English paper they want to die, OR a PERSON is fascinated with death OR mentions a suicide plan.

Action: Call Counselors/Report to ACT immediately

- A PERSON is walking around campus talking strangely to himself and is carrying something.

Action: Call Campus Police/Report to ACT

- A PERSON appears confused and lost.

Action: Call Campus Police/Report to ACT

- A person expresses suicide ideation.

Action: Call Advising Services immediately and walk student over to Advising Services

Examples: Action To Take

- A PERSON has made a threat against a faculty or staff person.

Action: Call Campus Police/Report to ACT

- A PERSON is argumentative and disruptive and threats are made.

Action: Report to Campus Police/Report to ACT and your Department Chair

- A PERSON tells you their spouse has just texted them and is waiting for them in the parking lot and may hurt them.

Action: Call Police/Report to ACT immediately

- A PERSON has a negative attitude toward the rules.

Action: Report to ACT

Summary

Counseling:

Refer distraught students for counseling.

ACT:

Report concerning behaviors online or directly to the Campus Police.

Emergencies:

Report emergencies or threatening behaviors to Campus Police immediately.

4-R's:

RECOGNIZE, RESPOND, REFER, and/or REPORT