CARE TEAM
Fostering a Caring Campus Environment through Resources and Support

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER.
WHAT IS A CARE TEAM?
The CARE Team is a multidisciplinary group whose primary goal is to effectively identify students in, or heading toward distress. Through an established protocol, the CARE Team receives and tracks reports of distressing and disruptive behaviors, collects and reviews information and determines the best responses to support, intervene, and/or warn. The team then responds with resources and coordinates follow-up.

WHY DO WE NEED A CARE TEAM?
The CARE Team aids in promoting students’ success and progress in adapting to the demands of the health science programs. By utilizing a proactive approach, the CARE Team addresses a growing need for centralized, coordinated, and caring interventions. The Team reviews reports of distressing and disruptive behaviors and performs assessments as needed to provide appropriate services and support for students and the campus.

WHEN AND HOW DO I SHARE A CONCERN?
We CARE about student success and rely on you – the eyes and ears of our University to help us make sure our students are supported. You can communicate observed or knowledge of distressing and disruptive behaviors by filling out the CARE Team form. The form can be found at uthsc.edu/care-concern, every UTHSC page, or uthsc.edu/care-team.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?
1. Identify distressing and disruptive behaviors. The first step is for YOU to identity the distressing and disruptive behaviors and share a CARE Team concern at uthsc.edu/care-concern. You can also submit a care referral verbally by calling the care navigator at 901.448.2344 or call the #TakeCare: After Hours line 901.690.CARE. Share the concern.
2. Evaluate. The report will be evaluated by the CARE Team to determine appropriate support and intervention.
3. Intervene. The CARE Team will facilitate and coordinate intervention.
4. Follow-up. A CARE Team member will follow-up with the reporter, if not anonymous.
5. Monitor. The CARE Team will monitor and, if needed, adjust the intervention.

WHAT ABOUT FERPA?
Protecting student privacy is a high priority of the Care Team. Records and proceedings of the team are kept confidential and shared only on a “need to know” basis in a manner that is consistent with University policy and the University’s obligations under applicable law, including FERPA.

WHAT MODEL IS BEING USED?
The NaBITA (National Behavioral Intervention Team Association) model, a nationally recognized authority for Behavioral Intervention Teams.

Thank you to the University of Rochester and the National Behavioral Intervention Team Association for their continued support.
## CONCERNING BEHAVIORS
- Anxious/depressed/overwhelmed
- Significant difficulty or anxiety with demands of college/program
- Pattern of relationship problems
- Loner, more withdrawn
- Excessive absence
- Decline in health, hygiene, appearance, or weight
- Falling asleep in class
- Change in pattern of interaction
- Students who are overly nervous, tearful or tense
- Unable to make decisions

## DISTRESSING BEHAVIORS
- Repeated requests for special consideration
- Extreme disorganization
- Written or verbal expression of violence or hopelessness
- Exaggerated or disproportionate response to grades or evaluations
- Angry outbursts, yelling, aggressive comments
- Cuts, bruises or burns
- Smell of alcohol, abuse of drugs
- Mental health history related to dangerousness
- Recent police contact
- Acting out
- Expressionless face
- Victim/martyr self concept
- Noncompliance or disciplinary problems
- Statements of distress
- Lack of responses to outreach
- Lack of resources causing distress

## DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIORS
- Highly troublesome behavior
- Loss of contact with reality
- Stalking behaviors
- Overtly suicidal/homicidal thoughts or actions
- Written or verbal to harm to self or others
- Inability to communicate clearly
- Violence or cruelty
- Paranoia
- Fascination with weapons or unusual interest in police, military, terrorist activities or materials
- Have not heard from the student, welfare check needed to ensure safety on or off campus

## CONTACT

**Memphis:**
Counselors at SASSI: 901.448.5056
or
UHS: 901.448.5630
or other campuses:
[uthsc.edu/student-health-services/locations.php](http://uthsc.edu/student-health-services/locations.php)
for counseling resources in your area

**CAMPUS CARES**
CARE TEAM’S MISSION

The UTHSC CARE Team engages in a proactive and collaborative approach to identify, assess, and mitigate risks associated with students – exhibiting distressing and disruptive behaviors or thoughts. The CARE Team’s mission is to identify and assist students in accessing resources that will help them succeed academically, personally, and socially. The CARE Team strives to promote individual students’ wellbeing and success while prioritizing prevention and safety.

AFTER HOURS HOTLINE

If you are a student, faculty member, staff, or parent who would like to speak with a counselor for guidance with a mental health concern or crisis, please call the after hours hotline at 901.690.CARE.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/DEA/V institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.