Critical Incident Task Force (CITF)

A multidisciplinary approach to making our campus the safest possible environment.

Visit us online, http://stuaff.mst.edu/citf/citf@mst.edu
Critical Incident Task Force

• Designed to review problematic behavior.

• Provides guidance, support, & resources.

• Represented Areas:
  – Athletics
  – Counseling & Disability Support Services
  – Office of the Vice Chancellor
  – Residential Life
  – Student Life
  – Student Health Services
  – University Police
What Does CITF Do?

Assessing student behavior & totality of circumstance while connecting students with resources.

• Prevention & Planning
• Notification
• Response
  – Gather Information
  – Assess the totality of the student circumstance
    • Attention to individual privacy rights and the protection of community
  – Consult & Communicate
    • Communication that adheres to FERPA, HIPPA, and Counseling
• Learning
  – "teachable moments" which may enhance quality of life for all
  – Documentation of our process
What Is A Critical Incident?

An event that causes a disruption to part of the campus community

Things to look for:

- Significant changes in academic or work performance
- Increased class absences or tardiness
- Listlessness, lack of energy, or falling asleep in class
- Unusual or bizarre behavior
- High levels of irritability
- Marked changes in personal hygiene or dress
- References to either suicide or intention to harm others
- Visible signs of anxiety or depressed mood
- Difficulty concentrating or carrying on discussion

If a student’s behavior causes you concern, it’s worth contacting CITF
What Can You Do?

- Be available.
- Avoid judging or labeling.
- Listen!
- Ask the student what s/he needs from you.
- Follow the student’s lead.
- Be as calm and honest as possible.
- Know campus resources and programs.
- NOTIFY the Critical Incident Task Force (CITF)!
Available Resources

• Faculty & Staff Online Resource  
  http://stuaff.mst.edu/resources/faculty.html

• Responding to Students In Distress  
  http://counsel.mst.edu/distress/index.html

• CITF Website  
  http://stuaff.mst.edu/citf/index.html

• Missouri Campus Security Task Force  
  http://www.dps.mo.gov/CampusSafety/index.htm
What We’ve Learned

• Critical Incidents, if ignored, can lead to a full blown crisis.
• Crises are rarely impulsive.
• There is no specific profile.

• **Challenge:** Available information is often scattered, different individuals in the student’s life have different pieces of the puzzle.
Things to Remember

- Faculty & staff are CRITICAL components in our process.
- Consult, consult, consult!
- Reporting does not get a student in trouble.
- Give yourself permission to not know what to do.
- Think actively and anticipate possibilities.
- There are a range of possible responses.
- Critical incidents are by definition complex.
How To Report A Concern

• Submit online from Student Affairs website
  http://communitystandards.mst.edu/behavior_form.html

• Contact Information
  • CITF, citf@mst.edu, 4292
  • Barb Prewett, bprewett@mst.edu, 4292
  • Patti J. Fleck, pfleck@mst.edu, 4211

• Emergencies & after hours contact S&T Police, 341-4300