Introduction to Campus Connect

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Campus Connect: Basic Philosophies

- Gatekeepers can be trained to work with students in crisis
  - Not to fear them, punish them, or shut them down
- Gatekeepers can be trained to identify, understand, and relate to emotional experiences of students in crisis
  - Result is enhanced empathy skills and enhanced gatekeeper-student relationship
- Gatekeepers can be trained effective communication and relationship building skills
- Gatekeepers experience greater skill development when active learning is emphasized over passive learning
  - Result is increased comfort and skill in responding to students in crisis
- Gatekeepers will be more likely to respond effectively to students in crisis if they are able to prepare themselves for the emotional intensity of responding to a suicidal student

Three Elements of Campus Connect

- Knowledge
- Relationship/communication skills
- Experienced self-awareness
Campus Connect Core Components: Knowledge

- Basic statistics and definitions
- Warning signs
- Risk factors
- Myths
- Referral resources

Campus Connect Core Components: Relationship/Communication Skills

- How to ask the "right" questions
- How to express understanding
- How to facilitate expression
- Listening with awareness and empathy
Campus Connect Core Components: Experienced Self-Awareness

- To connect with others, you must be emotionally present and available
- It is important to sufficiently prepare gatekeepers for powerful emotions that occur in crisis situations
- Bring the relationship into the intervention by bringing the gatekeepers into the training