University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Grant Type: Garrett Lee Smith Campus
Grant Status: Active
Year Awarded: 2019
State: North Carolina

The Behavioral Health Springboard (BHS) at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill’s School of Social Work will utilize the Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention funds to implement the Carolina Comprehensive Approach to Suicide Prevention. UNC’s Counseling and Psychological Services, Student Wellness, Campus Health, Athletics Department, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs will collaborate with BHS to address the unrecognized and untreated behavioral health conditions of UNC students and to equip the UNC community with the necessary information and skills to help students in need to get connected to appropriate supports. The goals of the Carolina Comprehensive Approach to Suicide Prevention include (Goal 1): Enhance mental health services for UNC students, including those at risk for suicide, depression, serious mental illness, and/or substance use disorders that can lead to school failure; (Goal 2): Prevent mental and substance use disorders that may, or could, emerge during college enrollment; (Goal 3): Promote student help-seeking behavior and reduce negative public attitudes among the UNC community and (Goal 4): Improve the identification and treatment of at-risk UNC students so they can successfully complete their studies. By analyzing the interface between student life, campus behavioral health services and resources, local referred providers, and any other key organizations, in a collaborative and inclusive process, this project will identify and fill gaps related to the necessary components of a comprehensive approach. These components include: identification and assessment; help-seeking; effective care and treatment; care transitions; responding to crisis; postvention; access to means; life skills and resilience; and connectedness. Activities included in the project will be performing a needs/gaps analysis and resource identification; gatekeeper training; policy and practice development; and awareness campaigns.