

Suicide Prevention and Response, 2.10

Chapter 2: Personnel

Responsible Office: Human Resources
Applies to: Students, Faculty and Staff
Approved: 04/21/2020

Policy: Rhodes State College is committed to providing education, prevention, emotional support, intervention and postvention to all students, faculty, and staff at a high risk for suicide and for those impacted by suicide with the goal of reducing suicides and other self-destructive behaviors

Guidelines:

I. Definitions:

- a. **At-risk Individual:** Characterized by a high level of risk for suicide and/or a low level of protection against suicide risk factors.
- b. **Intervention:** An activity or set of activities designed to decrease risk factors or increase protective factors related to suicidal behaviors.
- c. **Postvention:** Activities following a suicide to help alleviate the suffering and emotional distress of the survivors and prevent additional trauma and contagion.
- d. **Prevention:** Activities implemented with intent to reduce the risk of self-inflicted harm with intent to complete suicide.
- e. **Safe Messaging:** Media or personal communications about suicide or related issues that do not increase the risk of suicidal behavior in vulnerable people and that may increase help-seeking behavior and support for suicide prevention efforts.
- f. **Suicide:** Death caused by self-directed injurious behavior with an intent to die as a result of the behavior.
- g. **Suicide Loss Survivor:** A person who has lost a family member, friend, classmate or colleague to suicide.

II. Resources: The following suicide prevention and response resources are available to Rhodes State students, faculty and staff:

- a. For immediate crisis intervention:
 - i. For immediate help in a crisis situation – dial 911
 - ii. National Suicide Prevention Hotline – 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- b. For mental health program information:
 - i. Contact the Office of Student Affairs
- c. The College recognizes that critical touch points in suicide prevention exist; therefore, it offers ongoing suicide prevention information and campaigns, which include regular distribution of informational flyers and posters throughout campus. Educational and campaign materials also are made available at New Student Orientation.

References: Amended House Bill 28 section 3345.37

History:

	Date:	Reason:
Issued:	04/21/2020	New Policy: Required by House Bill 28 section 3345.37
Revised:		
Revised:		

This policy and / or procedure provides operating principles for Human Resources issues at Rhodes State College. It supersedes any prior policy covering specific subject. This policy and / or procedure may be suspended, modified or cancelled as determined by the College. This policy and / or procedure does not create a contract of employment, nor is it a condition of employment between the College and its employees.