Blinn College Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) Overview

**Mission statement**
The mission of the Behavioral Intervention Team, is to promote health, safety, and academic success, of the campus community through proactive assistance to students who have reportedly displayed troublesome or concerning behaviors.

**Purpose**
- To support the college’s policies and procedures
- To receive and gather information regarding potentially harmful or disruptive behavior with regard to safety and rights of others and in order to minimize the disruption to the college community
- To collaboratively recommend preventive and purposeful individualized interventions to ensure a safe campus environment where learning, personal and professional development can occur
- To follow up and determine if further intervention is needed, evaluate effectiveness of intervention strategies, and make further recommendations as needed

**What we do NOT do**
The Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is not a crisis response team. Faculty/staff should contact Counseling, Campus Police or the Health in the case of any perceived crisis (suicidal ideation, violent behavior etc.).

**Future considerations**
We are also in the process of creating an online self-reporting tool that students, staff or faculty who identify or demonstrate behaviors that may be warning signs of issues.

We are in the process of providing all faculty with the NABITA assessment card (see handout).

We also initiated addition mental health training for interested policemen from Rock Prairie Mental Health. Our goal is to have at least one policeman trained in mental health issues on all four campuses. Chief Craig Wiesepape has confirmed interest in the training and is contacting Judicial Officer BJ Hegemeyer for more information.

**Kognito online training**
Texas State Bill 1624 has been signed into law and goes into effect on September 1, 2015. This bill calls for colleges and universities to provide mental health and suicide prevention information for all incoming, full–time students.

This law states that institutions must offer:

- Available mental health and suicide prevention services offered by the institution or by any associated organizations or programs
• Early warning signs that are often present in and appropriate intervention for a person who may be considering suicide.

The bill further requires the information to be provided through:
  • a live presentation
  • a format that allows for student interaction, such as an online program or video
  • may not be provided in a paper format only.

We are considering the online training program Kognito to meet the requirements of Texas State bill 1624. We highly recommend faculty to include a link to Kognito on their syllabi.

A demo can be viewed at https://www.kognito.com/products/highered/