

# Welcome To Equitable Strategies for Mental Health Support on Campus

January 10, 2023

#### **Meet Your Presenter**



#### **Erlinda Delacruz, MA** *she/her/hers* Senior JED Campus Advisor



The Jed Foundation

# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land each of us live, learn, and thrive are the traditional, ancestral, and unceded homelands of Indigenous and tribal nations. We also acknowledge the genocide and systems of oppression that have dispossessed Indigenous people of their lands and we honor and respect the diverse and beautiful peoples still connected to this land. New Jersey is located on the original homelands of the Mohican and Munsee Lenape people.

Thank you to the elders, language keepers, land protectors who are here with us today. Thank you for allowing us to be guests here.



## Today's Objectives At the end of this session:

- Engage in self-reflection to better understand equity in the context of student mental health.
- Share challenges related to student mental health, especially for marginalized populations.
- Collaboratively identify solutions and opportunities for improvement.
- Learn strategies for integrating equity into strategic planning for student mental health initiatives.
- Explore strategies to foster inclusive social connectedness, ensuring a sense of belonging for all students.
- Learn approaches to encourage equitable help-seeking behaviors and create a supportive culture.

# **JED's Mission & Vision**



**Mission:** The Jed Foundation (JED) is a non-profit that protects emotional health and prevent suicide for our nation's teens and young adults.

#### **Vision:** At JED, we envision a future where:

- Every high school, district, and college has a comprehensive system that supports emotional health and reduces the risks of substance misuse and suicide.
- Teens and young adults are equipped to navigate mental health challenges, to seek and give help, and to be emotionally prepared to enter adulthood and fulfill their potential.
- Our communities support the emotional well-being and mental health of teens and young adults.
- Mental health is recognized as part of general health and wellness and is not associated with shame, secrecy, or prejudice.

#### JED's Comprehensive Approach

- Drawn primarily from the overall strategic direction of the United States Air Force (USAF) Suicide Prevention Program
- Based on what's known about decreasing risk factors for suicide and increasing protective factors for mental health
- Used to assess efforts currently underway on campuses and identify existing strengths and areas for improvement



# JED's Work



#### **Programs and Services**

- JED High School
- JED Campus
- District Comprehensive Approach
- Postvention Consulting

#### **Resources**

- Mental Health Resource Center
- <u>Set to Go</u>
- Seize the Awkward
- JED Voices

What student communities need more support on your campus?

postdocs youngwomen gtpoc neurodivergent population low-incomeimmigrant natives racialized institutionalized figlidacamented income non-binary stress achieving graduate fgli adoptees online poc (example: international alaskahispanic. americans disabled black first gencommuters groups gbtqia **Students** addicts large umber #lowses **Students** bipoc high athletes lgbtq commuter disabilities parents indigenous pharmacy) formerly asian generation indigenous inhoused intersections identities learners traditio pharmacy) specifically.



## **Equitable Implementation**

JED's **Equitable Implementation Framework** ensures that the needs of students who are potentially marginalized or underserved due to societal and structural inequities and school-specific community demographics are considered deliberately and intentionally.



#### JED Research and Recommendations for:



- Students of color: <u>Equity in Mental Health</u> <u>Framework</u> with The Steve Fund
- Students who are parents: <u>Improving Mental</u> <u>Health of Student Parents Framework</u> with Ascend at the Aspen Institute
- Graduate/professional students: <u>Recommendations to Support Graduate and</u> <u>Professional Student Mental Health &</u> <u>Well-Being with the Council of Graduate Schools</u>
   LGBTQ+ Students: <u>Proud & Thriving Framework</u> <u>for LGBTQ+ Student Mental Health</u> with the Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals

What barriers are these populations facing on your campus?

# **National Data**

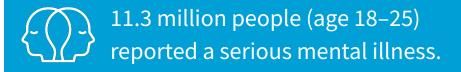


1 in 3 young adults have a mental, behavioral, or emotional health issue.

28% of undergraduate and graduate students over the age of 18 self-injured.



1.5 million people made a suicide plan.





3.3 million adolescents (age 12-17) had serious thoughts of suicide.

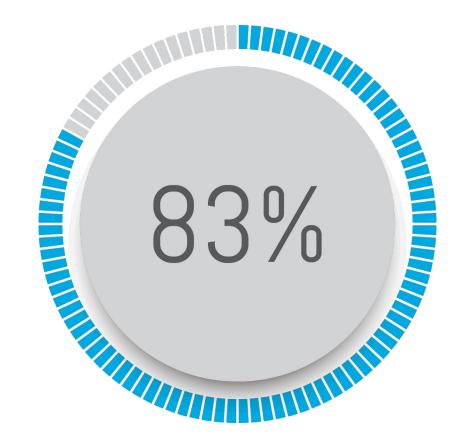


892,000 people attempted suicide.

Source: <u>Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States:</u> <u>Results from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health;</u> <u>The Healthy Minds Study 2022-2023 Data Report</u>

### Impact on Academic Performance

In the past 4 weeks, 83% of students have felt that emotional or mental difficulties have hurt their academic performance on at least one day.



Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Amplified **Disparities & Trauma-Related** Symptoms

"The multiple and intersecting marginalized identities carried by many students of color such as socioeconomic, immigration, and ability status; sexual orientation; gender identity; and cultural background can amplify these disparities and trauma-related symptoms".

#### **Campus Climate**



#### **Non-Traditional Students**

- **25.8%** of undergraduates were first-generation
- 33.3% of students enrolled at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) were first-generation
- **19.7%** of students enrolled at non-MSIs were first-generation



### **Current Trends Amongst LGBTQIA+ Youth**



## **41%**

of LGBTQIA+ youth ages 13–24, 41% seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year.

#### **8**x

more likely to attempt suicide if LGBTQIA+ young people ages 21–25 were rejected by their parents.

### 70%

of LGBQ+ high school students experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness over the past year.

# **56%**

of LGBTQIA+ young people ages 13–24 who wanted mental health care were not able to get it over the past year.

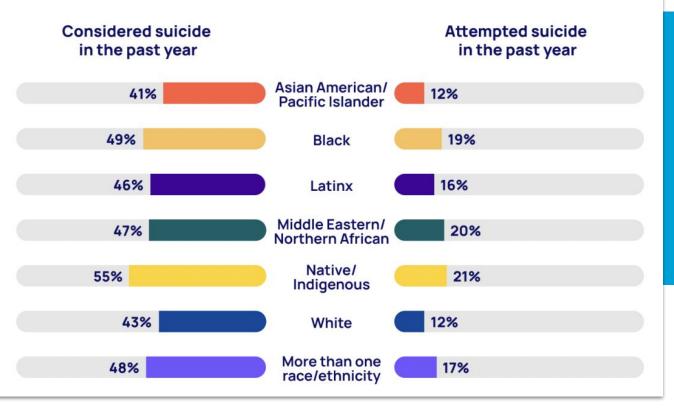
# 40%

of LGBTQIA+ young people ages 13–24 say they live in homes that affirm their gender identity. 2/3

of LGBTQIA+ young people ages 13–24 said hearing about laws banning discussion of LGBTQIA+ people at school made their mental health much worse.

# Rates of considered and attempted suicide among LGBTQ youth by race/ethnicity

#### LGBTQIA+ Students



Source: The Trevor Project National Survey 2022

# > 3X HIGHER

The prevalence of **suicide attempts** for **students with disabilities** compared to students without disabilities.

Source: <u>A Public Health Approach to Understanding the Mental Health Needs of College Students with Disabilities: Results From a National Survey, 2021</u>

#### **Student Parents**

Parenting students represent **over 20%** of the total undergraduate student population.

**45%** parenting students (ages 18-29) considered **dropping out** of school in the past 30 days.

Among student parents receiving financial aid (ages 18-45), **50%** considered dropping out of school.  Student parents share that they deal with:
 the constant juggling of childcare, employment, and coursework

- lack of sleep
- continual stress and anxiety
- feelings of guilt

Four in 10 student parents describe the experience of attending school while raising a child as extremely or very challenging.

Source: JED / The Aspen Institute: Improving Mental Health of Student Parents: A Framework for Higher Education

#### What strengths do your students, their families, and community bring to campus?





Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

## **Strategic Planning**

- Create a multi-disciplinary team focused on mental health and emotional well-being.
- Involve upper administration to create a top-down, community-wide commitment.



## **Strategic Planning (continued)**

- Communicate broadly that the institution is prioritizing mental and emotional health and supporting a diverse student population. Add the commitment to your institution's strategic plan and mission.
- Regularly collect data, analyze by demographics, and share and use the data to inform strategies.
- Employ promising practices for diversity and inclusion, including dedicated roles, funding, and HR practices.
- Ensure that diversity and inclusion offices are resourced appropriately and that you are connecting the dots between mental health, well-being, and DEI&A initiatives.



### The Chronicle of Higher Education

# Supporting Student Caregivers:

How a campus partner and regional needs influenced a Georgia university's efforts.



THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Source: AARP / Chronicle of Higher Education: Supporting Student Caregivers

#### National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)

ISSUE BRIEF

NASPA. Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

Current U.S. State Policy Landscape Impacting Transgender and Gender Non-Binary College Students

Diana Ali and Alexa Wesley Chamberlain



### **Active Minds**



#### your voice is your power

Calling on mental health advocates to help establish a school culture of caring and support, especially for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ students nationwide.

Over the last decade there has been a rise in mental health issues among youth and young adults. This rise has been even more pronounced among **Black**, **Indigenous**, **and/or people of color** (BIPOC) and **LGBTQ+** young adults.

BIPOC youth are more likely to be impacted by the pandemic, police violence, and longstanding racial discrimination. Similarly, LGBTQ+ youth are more likely to experience discrimination, a lack of social support, and limited access to appropriate health care, all of which impact mental health. Experts predict that mental health challenges will continue to rise.

# Promote social connectedness



- Implement peer mentoring programs.
- Connect students to community organizations that represent their identities.
- Create supportive spaces (virtual/in-person/hybrid) to discuss the impact of major events.
- Offer staff training and resources so support is provided with care.
  - Develop an awareness of those at greater risk of being lonely or isolated employ population-specific support. Reach out, ask.

### Populations at higher risk of isolation & loneliness



Veterans and military-connected students LGBTOIA+ students Students of color **First-generation students** Economically-disadvantaged students International students Undocumented students Commuter students Online students Students returning/leaving study abroad Graduate students Students of religious/spiritual minority groups

Transfer students Students with disabilities Neurodiverse students Students diagnosed with mental illness Students in recovery from substance misuse Survivors of physical/gender-based Violence Students with children/families Returning students (non-traditional) Students on and returning from medical leave Students who took a gap year Students with housing or food Insecurity Indigenous/Native students

### Indigenizing Love

NDIGENIZIN A Toolkit for Native Youth to Build Inclusion SE 100 +ACTIVITIES LINKS VIDEOS IREE TWO-SPIRIT IRCES LEADERSHIP PROFILES

Source: <u>Indigenizing Love: A Toolkit for Native Youth to Build Inclusion</u> (Western States Center)

#### **The Brotherhood**



Home / Student Life / Residence Life / The Brotherhood

The Brotherhood is a living and learning community created to foster an intentional environment centered around supporting Black male scholars on GSW's campus beginning in their first year. The Brotherhood's main mission is the cultivation of productive academic mindsets supported by programmatic efforts to enhance the Black male bonding experience. This fusion of community and education is part of GSW's pursuit in increasing the graduation rate of Black men.

Brotherhood members are given a physical community space in Oaks 1 with a hall that is dedicated solely to these students. This space is not only designed to foster brotherhood and community for incoming students, but is also intended to engage Black males in The Brotherhood's three main

#### Contact The Brotherhood

Travis Crafter Advisor

229-931-2676 travis.crafter@asw.edu "Talking to Children After Racial Incidents" by Dr. Howard Stevenson



Image Credit: Chris Kendig Photography

Parents have a natural instinct to teach and protect their children. Policeinvolved killings, the shooting of unarmed black men, peaceful protests that turn violent — incidents that are often traumatic for adults — can make these two instincts feel in conflict.

Do we try to explain the strife our child sees on television? Or should we try to shield her from such "grown up" problems?

Why is this a conversation parents and guardians need to have?

We can't hide our children from the world. Your child is probably already more aware of race, class, and gender differences than you realize. This can be a time to teach your child about social justice, while also helping process how painful these events can be for them, and for you.

Source: Talking to Children After Racial Incidents by Dr. Howard Stevenson

#### Increase Help-Seeking Behavior

- Ensure that resources are readily available and well-publicized.
- Offer **peer support** and **peer education** programs.
- Develop campaigns that encourage students to seek help (e.g., therapist, telehealth, peer support, or social norming campaigns around substance use).
  - *"No wrong door on campus"* not just Counseling Center for support
  - "There's help all around you"



#### **Ease of Access to Resources**

#### **Mental Health America**

#### Bad B\*\*\*\*s Have Bad Days Too





#### THERAPY PLATFORMS

National Alliance on Mental Illness	$\nearrow$
iPrevail	$\nearrow$
Center for Interactive Mental Health Solutions	$\nearrow$

#### We Can Talk About It



# **Q&A and Discussion**

### Resources for **Students** of Color

#### UMass | Dartmouth

STUDENT LIFE // DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS // DEPARTMENTS // COUNSELING CENTER // RESOURCES // RESOURCES FOR BIPOC STUDENTS

#### IN THIS SECTION N

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND REFERRALS

MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOURCES FOR BIPOC STUDENTS

SELF-HELP RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

#### **Resources for BIPOC Students**

The following are links to resources specifically curated to support the success of Black, indigenous, and people of color

#### Articles

These articles explore the challenges for BIPOC students seeking mental health treatment and provide links to directories, social communities, online support groups, podcasts, and research on this topic:

- https://www.purewow.com/wellness/mental-health-resources-for-people-of-color
- https://therapygroupdc.com/therapist-dc-blog/black-lives-matter-mental-health-resources-for-people-ofcolor/
- https://blog.zencare.co/how-to-find-a-black-therapist/
- https://www.massgeneral.org/psychiatry/guide-to-mental-health-resources/for-bipoc-mental-health
- https://www.naminh.org/resources-2/bipoc/

#### Directories

The following are some of the directories for finding a therapist:

- Association of Black Psychologists
- Black Emotional and Mental Health Collective
- Latinx Therapy
- Inclusive Therapists
- Innopsych
- The Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation Provider Directory
- LGBTQ Psychotherapists of Color Directory
- National Queer and Trans Therapists of Color Network

#### APPOINTMENTS Contact Us ⊕ University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

EMERGENCIES

→ RESOURCES

Q

L 508-999-8648

**\$ 508-999-8650** 

Our Staff

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5

Events

View Full Calendar



Source: UMass Dartmouth: Resources for BIPOC Students

Contact **Counseling Center** Auditorium Annex 285 Old Westport Road Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300

#### Seize the Awkward



#### Find a way to reach out to a friend about their mental health.

Learn more at seizetheawkward.org

SEIZE THE AWKWARD 🔜 😳 Average 🚛

#### **Mental Health Resource Center**



Get started  $\ni$ 

#### Text, Talk, Set to Go



#### **Mental Health Is Health**

Mental Health is Health

FOR YOU FOR A FRIEND

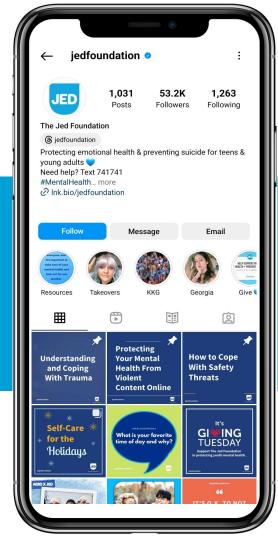
SOS

# We all have mental health

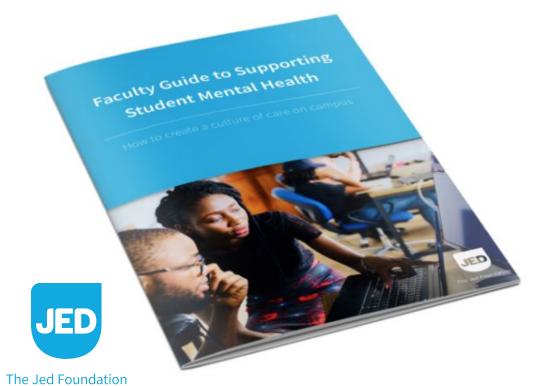
Our emotional health can range from thriving to struggling. No matter what you're experiencing, there are ways to take action to support yourself and those around you.

## **JED's Instagram**

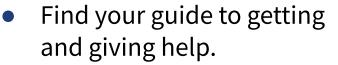




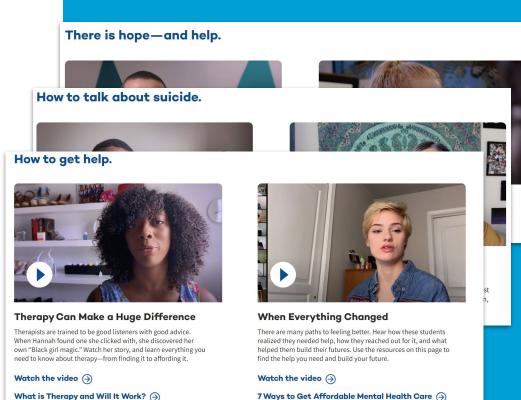
## Faculty Guide to Supporting Student Mental Health



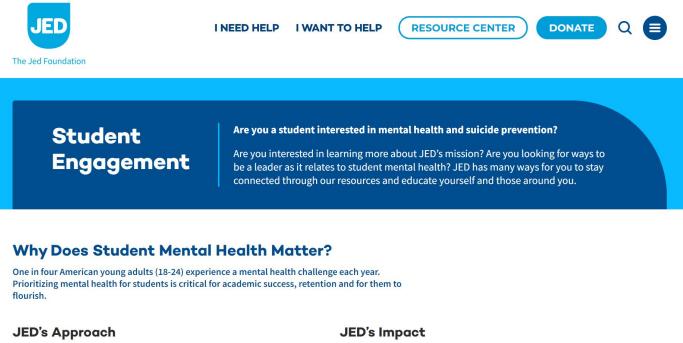
### It's OK to Say Suicide Campaign



- Start talking; you just might save a life.
- Join the broader conversation about suicide.



#### **Student Engagement at JED**



JED's vision is for all teens and young adults to be equipped to navigate mental health challenges, to be able to seek and give help, and to be emotionally prepared to enter adulthood and fulfill their potential.

Students are poised to lead the way and are the driving force for mental health change. Our work can't be achieved without them.

Learn about our impact  $(\rightarrow)$ 

Learn about our approach  $(\Rightarrow)$ 

#### **Free Resources**

Scan this QR code for access to a list of free information and valuable resources:





# **THANK YOU**

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#### https://bit.ly/EquityPost

We encourage you to participate in our survey!



jedfoundation.org