Keith E. Smith has been a strong advocate for diversity and social justice throughout his career at the University of Vermont. He first worked for the ALANA Student Center as the Student Service Advisor and currently serves as the Men's Outreach Coordinator/Mental Health Counselor at the University Counseling & Psychiatry Services. In his role, he emphasizes self-respect, respect for others, and the importance of equity and fairness for all. He approaches his work from understanding that we all are comprised of multiple intersecting identities that make us complex and unique. He strives to help others understand themselves within the context of overlapping cultures. Further, he encourages colleagues and students to value and engage with other perspectives and cultures.

Keith has created, implemented, and promoted services for young men on campus so that they can develop an understanding of their socialization into masculinity that will ultimately encourage new behavioral choices. He also developed and teaches a class through the Center for Student Ethics and Standards that offers an educational option for male students whose behavior has hurt themselves and members of the campus community. He often works with young men during vulnerable moments in their lives, and he is uniquely talented in helping these individuals better understand themselves and their histories, while recognizing the repercussions of their actions. It is a rare person that can help others become more compassionate toward themselves and more accountable for their actions at the same time.

Keith’s significant visible contributions have a far reach across the University. Equally valuable are the invisible contributions that he makes in his confidential role as a mental health counselor. He works incredibly hard to help people recover from trauma, neglect, abuse, and other painful experiences. Over the course of his career at UVM, he continually strives to learn more about how best to support the members of the campus community.

Keith collaborates with a broad range of colleagues and has made his mark in numerous departments across campus. He has worked with Athletics, Greek Life, Orientation, and Residential Life, among others. His One in Four program trains young men to teach their peers about how to prevent sexual and domestic violence. He is passionate about ending violence against women and has been tireless in his efforts to raise awareness on campus.

Colleagues continue to feel inspired by his passion and his countless contributions to advance equity, fairness, and peace at the University.