

# D-SCALE: LIFE STRESS AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

### **DECOMPENSATING**

- ▲ Behavior is actively dangerous and potentially lethal
- ▲ Impaired ability to engage in basic/essential daily tasks that presents an imminent risk to their safety or the safety of others based on:
  - △ Episodic or ongoing life event or chronic condition
  - △ Communications, thought patterns, and/or behaviors that are illogical, tangential, or based on things others cannot see or hear
- ▲ Unwelcome or repetitive communications/contact that ▲ Life-threatening suicide attempt or non-suicidal selfpresent an imminent safety risk to the recipient
- ▲ Substance use, or other addictive/risky behaviors, that present an imminent risk to their safety or the safety of
- ▲ Specific and direct threat of potentially lethal violence that is impulsive
- Potentially lethal physical contact
- ▲ Imminent suicidal ideation or suicidal ideation that includes a potentially lethal plan
  - injury that is life threatening

#### **DETERIORATING** -

- Destructive or significantly disruptive actions/ communications
- Impaired ability to engage in basic/essential daily tasks based on:
  - ☐ Episodic or ongoing life event or chronic condition
  - Communications, thought patterns, and/or behaviors that are illogical, tangential, rapid, or irrelevant
- Unwelcome or repetitive communications/contact that are disruptive and concerning to the recipient

- Substance use, or other addictive/risky behaviors, that:
  - Create significant or frequent negative consequences or
  - Present significant but non-life-threatening
- Vague, indirect, or non-lethal threat of impulsive
- Minor physical contact
- Suicidal ideation that is not imminent or lethal
- Non-life-threatening, non-suicidal self-injury
- Significant impairment in mood, relationships, academic/work performance, etc.

#### DISTRESSED

- Limited ability to regulate emotions or actions
- Struggles to manage or cope with episodic or ongoing life event or chronic condition that does not impact their ability to engage in basic/essential daily tasks
- Moderate difficulties with mood, relationships, academic/work performance, etc.
- Interpersonal relationship difficulties or difficulties interacting/communicating with others
- If a threat to self or others is present, it is vague, indirect, implausible, and lacks detail or focus

## **DEVELOPING**

- Healthy or safe coping skills related to an episodic or ongoing life event or chronic condition
- Minimal to no difficulties with mood, relationships, academic/work performance, etc.
- Has a need for resources or services to address a barrier or stressor
- No threat to self or others present

# **E-SCALE: HOSTILITY AND VIOLENCE TO OTHERS**

## **EMERGENCE OF VIOLENCE**

- ▲ Specific, direct, and potentially lethal threat of violence
- ▲ Clear threat of potentially lethal violence to others as retaliation to resolve grievances, or to address ideologically hardened/hate-based beliefs
- ▲ Individual, group, organization, or location identified as a target for the communicated threat of potentially lethal
- ▲ Unusual/concerning interest in violence/violent content with a clear, articulated plan to emulate/ replicate violence
- A References past attacks/attackers that demonstrate a desire to emulate/idolize the past attack/attacker
- Behavior, writing, and/or communication indicates attack planning behaviors, possibly with steps already taken to advance their plan

#### **ELABORATION OF THREAT**

- Threat of physical harm to others that is either vague or
- Threat or ultimatum of potentially violent retaliation to resolve grievances or address ideologically hardened/ hate-based beliefs
- Individual, group, organization, or location identified as a target, but the threat or ultimatum of physical harm is vague or non-lethal
- Unusual/concerning interest in violence/violent content with a desire to emulate/replicate violence
- References past attacks/attackers that do not demonstrate a desire to emulate/idolize the past attack/attacker

# **ESCALATING BEHAVIORS**

- Grievances concerning perceived/actual mistreatment and/or injustices
- Clearly non-violent ultimatums/consequences to resolve grievances
- Ideologically hardened or hate-based beliefs that create disruption/conflict by shaming, objectifying, or intimidating others
- Unusual/concerning interest in violence/violent

### **EMPOWERING THOUGHTS**

- Ideologically hardened/hate-based beliefs that create conflict with others but do not disrupt, shame, objectify, or intimidate others
- Difficulty taking the perspectives of others or demonstrating empathy
- Narrowing relationships and consumption of information (e.g., news, social media) to only those that share the same perspective
- No threat or ultimatum communicated or present

#### NONE

# **D-SCALE INTERVENTIONS**

### **DECOMPENSATING**

- ▲ Initiate an immediate welfare/safety check
- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - Assist with any academic/work reduction, voluntary withdrawal/leave, or other measures and resources to improve academic/work
  - △ Address situational stressor/barrier or facilitate referrals to resource
  - △ Engage in safety planning and/or skill building to promote harm reduction, impulse control, healthy coping skills, emotional regulation, protective factors, and/or distress tolerance

#### **DETERIORATING**

- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - Assist with any academic/work reduction, voluntary withdrawal/leave, or other measures and resources to improve academic/work
  - Address situational stressor/barrier or facilitate referrals to resources
  - Engage in safety planning and/or skill building to promote harm reduction, impulse control, healthy coping skills, emotional regulation, protective factors, and/or distress tolerance

### **DISTRESSED**

- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - O Assist with any academic/work reduction, voluntary withdrawal/leave, or other measures/resources to improve academic/work
  - O Address situational stressor/barrier or facilitate referrals to resources
  - Engage in skill building to promote harm reduction, impulse control, healthy coping skills, emotional regulation, protective factors, and/or distress tolerance

## **DEVELOPING**

 Assign a staff/team member to reach out to the individual to offer assistance/ resources to address situational stressor/barrier

## GENERAL INTERVENTIONS

#### CRITICAL

- Notify emergency contact or other appropriate party
- ▲ Engage in immediate safety planning or offer support to impacted parties
- Mandate an individualized risk assessment
  - Use results to determine and implement interventions to mitigate risk
- Coordinate with law enforcement/campus safety and/or discipline/ conduct to facilitate information-sharing to implement safety/disciplinary measures
- ▲ Coordinate with accessibility/disability support services to facilitate information-sharing to implement accommodations

#### **ELEVATED**

- Evaluate the need for a welfare/safety check
- Evaluate the need for notification of emergency contact or other appropriate party
- Engage in safety planning or offer support to impacted parties
- Evaluate the need for a mandated individualized risk assessment(s)
  - ☐ If performed, use results to determine and implement interventions necessary to mitigate risk
- Coordinate with law enforcement/campus safety and/or discipline/ conduct to facilitate information-sharing to implement safety/disciplinary measures
- Coordinate with accessibility/disability support services to facilitate information-sharing to implement accommodations
- Provide guidance to the referral source detailing how they can support or respond

## MODERATE

- Coordinate with discipline/conduct, accessibility/disability support services or other departments to facilitate information-sharing, accommodations, or other supports
- Provide guidance and education to the referral source detailing how they can support or respond
- Request that an institutional/community resource reach out and offer support/resources

#### MILE

- No formal intervention from a team member
- Provide guidance to the referral source detailing how they can support or respond
- Request that an institutional/ community resource reach out and offer support/resources

# **E-SCALE INTERVENTIONS**

### **EMERGENCE OF VIOLENCE**

- ▲ Initiate an immediate BOLO/welfare/safety check
- Coordinate with appropriate parties to determine need for a campus/ community notification, lock-down, or other emergency response measures
- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - Assist with any academic/work reduction, voluntary withdrawal/leave, or other measures/resources to improve academic/work
  - △ Encourage connection to non-violent solutions, outlets, or hobbies
  - △ Provide support in addressing grievance or difficulty in a non-violent manner
  - △ Facilitate referrals to institutional/ community resources to address grievance or to provide support/resources
  - △ Engage in skill building to promote healthy coping skills, improve communication skills, reinforce protective factors, and increase impulse control, empathy, and/or perspective taking

#### **ELABORATION OF THREAT** -

- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - Assist with any academic/work reduction, voluntary withdrawal/leave, or other measures/resources to improve academic/work
  - Encourage connection to non-violent solutions, outlets, or hobbies
  - Provide support in addressing grievance or difficulty in a non-violent manner
  - Facilitate referrals to institutional/community resources to address grievance or to provide support/resources in a non-violent manner
  - ☐ Engage in skill building to promote healthy coping skills, improve communication skills, reinforce protective factors, and increase impulse control, empathy, and/or perspective taking

### **ESCALATING BEHAVIORS**

- Assign a trained staff/team member to encourage a meeting with the individual and implement a case management plan to:
  - O Provide support in addressing grievance or difficulty in a non-violent manner
  - O Facilitate referrals to institutional/community resources to address grievance or to provide support/resources in a non-violent manner
  - O Engage in skill building to promote healthy coping skills, improve communication skills, reinforce protective factors, and increase impulse control, empathy, and/or perspective taking
  - O Encourage connection to non-violent outlets or hobbies

### EMPOWERING THOUGHTS —

 Assign a staff/team member to reach out to individual to offer assistance/ resources to address communication skills and encourage empathy and perspective taking