

iCare FAQ

What is the purpose of the I Care Team?

The goal is to have one central place to report concerns about a student. It will allow us to pull information together, particularly if a student is having trouble in a number of areas (academic, residential living, participation in activities or sports, etc.).

Who is on the I Care Team?

- Liz McClintock, Director of Academic Advising (724) 503-1001 [ext:6008](#)
- Sharon Taylor, Associate Dean of the Faculty (724) 503-1001 [ext:6006](#)
- Lisa Hamilton, Director of Student Health & Counseling Services (724) 223-6107
- Tyler Kowcheck, Director of Residence Life (724) 503-1001, Ext. 5136

What happens when I refer a student to the I Care Team?

Your information will be provided to all of the team members simultaneously. The Team will meet as needed to discuss the most appropriate next step to help the student you are concerned about. A team member will most likely contact the student.

Will the student's parents be called?

The team will make every possible effort to protect the student's confidentiality; however, if the concern represents a significant threat to the safety of the student or other students, or if the student needs emergency medical care, the parents or others identified as emergency contacts will be notified.

Will other college officials, faculty or staff know?

The team will protect the confidentiality of the student as much as possible. The team will inform other staff only if necessary to ensure the safety of the student and/or other students.

What should be reported?

Any observations or incidents that cause you to be concerned or worried about a student might be something you should consider reporting. The following is a short list of signs which often indicate a person is having trouble and may need assistance.

- Unusual changes in behavior, appearance and self care, interaction patterns
- Changes in attendance, or academic performance
- Disruptive behavior
- Distressing behavior
- Unusual emotional responses, persistent sadness, frequent rage or anger, or extreme irritability
- Extreme changes in sleep patterns (needing much more, or much less sleep)
- Unusually high energy, rapid speech, racing thoughts, impulsiveness
- Extreme difficulty in organizing thoughts or communicating clearly
- Expression of feelings of hopelessness or helplessness
- Expressing thoughts of doing harm to self or others

Can I still express a concern directly to a Team Member which I do not wish to have shared with the entire team?

Yes, and again, with some limitations. If that team member judges the information you share to represent a significant threat to safety, he/she may encourage you to report to the whole team, or he/she may report the concern to the team.

A special note regarding Counseling Services:

Counseling Services staff members are available to the I Care Team for consultation, but are unable to share confidential information about student health and mental health in accordance with federal and state law. Information about a student who is already a client of Counseling Services can only be shared at the I Care Team meeting with written authorization by the student or in an emergency situation where someone's health, welfare or safety are judged to be at risk.

Resources

- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) or 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [National HOPE Line](#) or 1-800-784-2433