

# Campus Safety and Security Task Force

## MINUTES

Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 2 p.m.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed members and guests Megan Lueck and Kodi Pollard, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Kendra Brown, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Cheryl Evans, Northern Oklahoma College; Kevin Leach, University of Oklahoma; Devin DeBock, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology; Nancy Hughes, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; David Shannon, Oklahoma Baptist University; Aaron Collins, Metro Technology Centers; Jeff Harp, University of Central Oklahoma; Steve Turner, Northeastern State University; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Bert Miller and Brandon Hill, East Central University; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Chad Brown, Carl Albert State College; Jack Bryant, Redlands Community College; Chad Wiginton, Western Oklahoma State College; Louis Ross and Nikki Phillips, Rogers State University; Roger Webb, Task Force Consultant; and Angela Caddell, Sarah Kimball, LeeAnna McNally, Rachel Bates and Sharon Bourbeau, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 3 MEETING MINUTES:** Chancellor Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the June 3, 2020, meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION ONLINE COURSE MODULES PARTNERSHIP UPDATE:** Johnson asked Megan Lueck, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, to provide an update on the suicide prevention online course modules partnership.

Lueck reminded members that the State Regents were partnering with ODMHSAS to offer online suicide prevention training modules through the Kognito platform, a computer-based online simulation tool. She explained that the partnership began in December 2019 with two online training courses offered to higher education campuses and technology centers: at-risk training for faculty and staff and at-risk training for students. She noted that the conversational aspect of the training – conducted through the use of avatars - set the Kognito training platform apart, allowing for “practice” opportunities within the training environment.

Lueck shared that two additional simulations designed to serve student veterans and active duty military became available through the partnership in spring 2020: Veterans on Campus, for faculty and staff, and Together Strong, for students. She said that the Together Strong simulation was designed for peer-to-peer use, to equip students to respond to a classmate who might be distressed. She noted that Oklahoma was unique given the larger-than-average student veteran and active service member population. Lueck said the goal of those simulations was to build military cultural competency and help users more fully appreciate and understand the challenges faced by student veterans.

Lueck described the importance of research-based training simulations, noting that many of Kognito’s Suicide Prevention programs were listed on the national evidence-based best practices registry. She encouraged task force members to try the simulations at [ok.kognito.com](http://ok.kognito.com).

A member asked how long the modules would be available to campuses at no cost. Lueck said that the simulations would be available free of charge via the partnership through June 30, 2021. She added that ODMHSAS was working internally to determine if cost assistance could be available after that time.

**MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID PARTNERSHIP UPDATE:** Johnson asked Kodi Pollard, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, to provide an update on the Mental Health First Aid partnership.

Pollard reminded the task force that in response to the need for enhanced mental health services and resources for higher education campuses, the State Regents partnered with ODMHSAS to offer free Mental

Health First Aid (MHFA) national certification training opportunities for campus personnel. The MHFA course is designed to equip community-based service providers to recognize, assist and support individuals who are experiencing a mental health issue. Staff from numerous participating state system campuses are nationally certified instructors empowered to provide MHFA trainings for other campus and community service providers.

Pollard told members that one in five university students was affected by anxiety or depression, and in 2019, 25% of students had been diagnosed with or treated for a mental health condition. She said the MHFA program trained personnel to know the risk factors, recognize warning signs, and provide an action plan to help students get professional assistance, when needed.

Pollard explained that the National Council for Behavioral Health was providing two new versions of the MHFA training to facilitate continued community services during the coronavirus pandemic. The blended version would include a section of online, self-paced prework followed by in-person training with an instructor. The fully virtual option would also include two hours of online, self-paced prework, with the remainder of the training provided virtually by an instructor. She noted that four public institutions, Oklahoma State University, the University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City Community College, and Rose State College, were participating in a virtual MHFA pilot initiative for Oklahoma.

Pollard added that ultimately, ODMHSAS would like to provide these MHFA options for all institutions within the state, and asked task force members to reach out to her or visit [www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org](http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org) for additional information about adding a campus MHFA instructor team. Angela Caddell said that campus staff were also welcome to contact her to request the training and connect with other campus instructor teams.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Johnson asked LeeAnna McNally to provide an update for members.

McNally told members that several law enforcement-related interim studies would be taking place within the week. She said the first study, requested by Senate President Pro Tempore Greg Treat, would address law enforcement policies including use of force, de-escalation practices and real-world application. She noted another interim study, requested by Sen. Kim David and Sen. Roger Thompson, that would review universal training requirements for police officers, and explained that a study requested by Sen. Darrell Weaver would address temporary personnel transfers between law enforcement agencies.

Johnson reminded members to remain vigilant, as bill filings related to weapons on campus were expected in the upcoming legislative session. He added that Oklahoma was the only state in the region in which college and university presidents had the authority to determine with whom, how and when weapons would be permitted on campus.

**CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE:** Johnson asked Sarah Kimball to share an update on the work of the Campus Emergency Manager Consortium. She said that the consortium was able to meet virtually in June, and that the group planned to meet virtually in October to plan the next steps on several pending projects.

**WORKGROUP REPORTS:** Johnson asked for workgroup reports.

**Campus Best Practices** (Steve Turner, Chair): Turner said that the committee had not met, and asked Caddell to schedule a virtual meeting before the next task force meeting. He encouraged members to begin archiving best practice resources for dealing with ongoing impacts of the pandemic, for future reference. Caddell added that the committee would begin reviewing and updating the online campus resource repository, as needed.

**Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research** (Larry Rice, Chair): Caddell gave the report in Rice's absence. She stated that the focus of the workgroup was to remain available to assist Chancellor and McNally in developing advocacy strategies for the upcoming session.

**Training and Plan Development** (Jeff Harp, Chair): Harp said that he and Caddell had discussed several potential training topics and were working with ODMHSAS to schedule a Crisis Intervention Training event for campus law enforcement and security personnel. He said the 40-hour training would likely need to be held in person, so a host campus would need to be identified. Caddell noted that the training opportunity would be open to public and private college and university and career technology center staff.

**STATEWIDE SUMMIT UPDATE:** Johnson reminded members there had been discussion on whether to proceed with the 2020 summit in the traditional format or reframe the summit as a virtual event, and that ultimately, the decision was made to postpone the summit. He asked Caddell to provide an update.

Caddell said the summit was postponed to the fall of 2021, and that her team was working with the Reed Center in Midwest City to consider date options in late October or early November 2021. She said that she expected to have a new summit date to share with members by the next task force meeting.

She added that efforts continued to identify free and low-cost virtual training opportunities to meet campus training needs in the interim, including the pending CIT certification opportunity. Johnson encouraged members to continue to relay training needs and topic ideas to him or Caddell.

**INSIGHTS: CAMPUS SAFETY IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD:** Dr. Roger Webb, Task Force Consultant, was unable to provide remarks due to technical difficulties. Caddell said Webb would be asked to provide insights at the next task force meeting.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** Johnson asked if members had any other agenda items to be considered. Turner reminded members to be mindful of important issues unrelated to the pandemic, including racial and social justice activism.

Aaron Collins told members that career technology centers hosted emotional and social intelligence training from the RITE Academy, and recommended the training to all campuses. Harp said that he was familiar with the RITE Academy and would scan the website for training programs that may be useful for the campus safety and security community.

Caddell reviewed the FY21 task force meeting schedule.

**WRAP UP AND COMMENTS:** Johnson thanked members for their attendance and said the next task force meeting would be held Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 1:30 p.m. in the Regents' conference room, or via Zoom.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.