## **VICKS IT TO FIX IT!** How to support an individual in distress

Sheree Summers, LMFT Christiany Chan, LCSW Student Health Services

Norco College

# What is Mental *Health?*

Refers to our emotional, psychological state, and our social well-being

How we feel about ourselves and interact with others

How we cope and deal with life situations





### What is Mental *Illness?*

#### Refers to a wide range of disorders

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Bipolar
- Schizophrenia



## Mental Health Spectrum



### WHEN MENTAL HEALTH IS COMPROMISED

Cognitive

Physical

Emotional

**Behavioral** 





### VICKS

### Validate

Identify

**Connect**/Care

Knowledge of resources

Support/Self-care

### VICKS

#### Validate

• You are going through a lot right now. Thank you for sharing.

#### Identify

• I'm noticing these challenges are impacting you.

#### Connect/Care

• I'm here to support you and I want you to be successful.

#### Knowledge of resources

• I would like to share some useful resources.

#### Support/Self-care

• Can I check in with you? After helping , please take time to reenergize.

## Validate

### Experiences

Feelings

Thoughts

Challenges

Physical (somatic) Symptoms

Words to use when validating

- That's difficult ; that's tough
- It makes sense that you feel that way
- I hear you
- It's okay to feel that way
- That must be hard
- It's a tough time
- It's okay to have .....thoughts, feelings, behaviors

## Identify

#### General needs

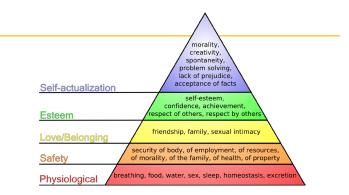
**Risk factors** 

Traumas

Predisposition to behavioral health challenges

**Treatment needs** 

Strengths



## Care and Connect

### Empathy

 Observing the situation nonjudgementally

### Compassion

• Kindness and grace

### Setting boundaries

• It's okay to say "no" and to say "yes"

## Knowledge

#### Resources

• Campus supports, natural supports, family, spiritual practices, etc.

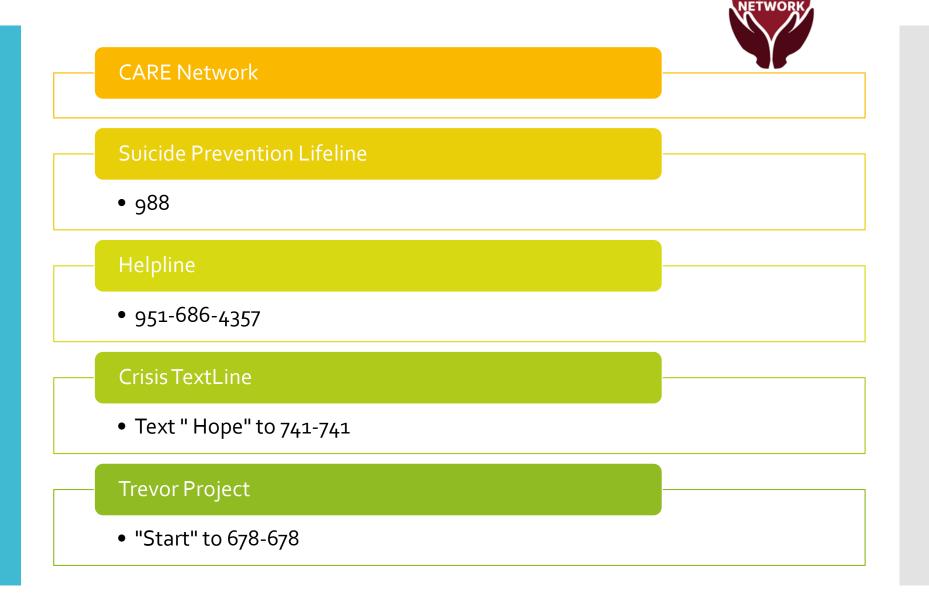
### **Protective factors**

• Engaged in school

### Strengths

• Help seeking; awareness; ask student to identify their own options

## Knowledge about Resources



Support and Self-care





## Self-care

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# Contact information

Sheree Summers Christiany Chan 951-738-7203 Sheree.summers@norcocollege.edu