
What is the Students of Concern Assistance Team?

A panel made up of a wide variety of professionals from across the USF campus. They meet weekly to review reports of students about whom a friend, fellow student, faculty or staff person is concerned.

The team evaluates the available information, and determines the best approach to provide the student of concern the support and assistance they may need to be fully successful at the University.

Our focus in the Division of Student Affairs at the University of South Florida is:

Inspiring Learning,

Changing Lives,

One Student at a time.

**Why be concerned?
The FACT\$ are that over a recent 12 month period:**

30% of students reported feeling so depressed it was hard to function

49% of students felt overwhelming anxiety

10% of students also reported being diagnosed or treated for depression

6% of students reported seriously considering suicide

[* source—APA Healthy Minds, 2008]



Students of Concern Assistance Team

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Students of Concern



Division of
STUDENT AFFAIRS



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Students of Concern Assistance Team (SOCAT)

SOCAT's MISSION

is to recognize and assist students in distress through supportive intervention when there is a concern that a student poses a danger to self or others.

HISTORY

SOCAT was formed in response to the 2007 Report of the Florida Gubernatorial Taskforce on Campus Safety which charged the members of the state university system to “develop a multidisciplinary crisis team, integrating and ensuring communication between ... appropriate campus entities to review individuals and incidents which indicate at risk behavior.”

Key Members of SOCAT

Assistant Vice President for Wellness
 Dean of Students
 Associate Director for Student Rights and Responsibilities
 Dean of Undergraduate Studies
 Director of the Counseling Center
 Medical Director for Student Health Services
 Student Affairs Case Manager
 Major, University of Police Department
 Associate Director for Housing and Residential Education



How SOCAT works

Emphasis on “assistance”
 Multidisciplinary
 Relies on “culture of reporting”
 Focus on behavior - not diagnosis
 Identifies, tracks, & reaches out to distressed students
 Evaluate and assess threats– does not predict
 Staffed by case manager
 Provides outreach, support, referral, & follow up

Community Collaboration

SOCAT	Acute Care Facilities
outreach	
Meet with students at facility to provide smooth transition back	Contact USF to provide student smooth transition back to campus
resources	
Collaborate with facility staff to access providers & other needs	Allow opportunities for increased awareness of campus sources of support
referrals	
Serve as campus point of contact for students & facility staff	Utilize USF Case Manager as part of student's care team, discharge plan
follow-up	
Reduce Service Gaps: SOCAT to conduct follow-up contacts with student Establish MOU's for collaborative care	



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