Tulane University recognized for suicide prevention work

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Tulane University has been awarded the JedCampus Seal from <u>The Jed Foundation</u>, a leading organization working to promote emotional health and prevent suicide among college and university students. The seal recognizes schools that exhibit comprehensive mental health promotion and suicide prevention programming on campus.

To earn the seal, Tulane took a voluntary self-assessment reviewing its campus mental health and suicide prevention programming. The Jed Foundation then compared the school"s responses to its recommended practices as well as those of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center. As part of this process, Tulane received confidential feedback designed to enhance programming and resources.

Tulane also plans to expand its suicide prevention and mental health programs with a recently awarded federal <u>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services</u>

<u>Administration</u> grant. The three-year, \$300,000 grant will fund a campus coordinator for suicide prevention training programs and increased outreach efforts.

"We're developing a community to help students who are struggling," says Scott Tims, director of Tulane's <u>Center for Wellness & Health Promotion</u>. "Our goal with all of our prevention work is to keep our community safe and healthy. It's exciting to see that we've made enough progress to be recognized by a national organization like the Jed Foundation."

The Jed Foundation was founded in 2000 by Donna and Phil Satow after they lost their son Jed to suicide. The organization is dedicated to increasing awareness about mental health services on campus and building resilience, coping skills and connectedness among young adults, their peers, families and communities.

Since 2010, Tulane has implemented programs to train staff, students and other campus role models how to spot early warning signs that someone may be in distress. The training outlines how to candidly talk about mental health issues and how to intervene to get students help before they are in crisis.