# What is a Behavioral Intervention Team?

A Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is a concept originally designed not as a response to campus shootings and violence, but as a proactive way to address the growing need in the college and university community for a centralized, coordinated, caring, developmental intervention for those in need prior to crisis.

A Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is a multidisciplinary group whose purpose is meeting regularly to support its target audience via an established protocol. The team tracks "red flags" over time, detecting patterns, trends, and disturbances in individual or group behavior. The team receives reports of disruptive, problematic or concerning behavior or misconduct (from co-workers, community members, friends, colleagues, etc), conducts an investigation, performs a threat assessment, and determines the best mechanisms for support, intervention, warning/notification and response. The team then deploys its resources and resources of the community and coordinates follow-up.



#### **Mission Statement**

The Behavioral Intervention Team is dedicated to a proactive, coordinated and planned approach to the identification, prevention, assessment, management, and reduction of interpersonal and behavioral threats to the safety and wellbeing of Antelope Valley College students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

#### **Goals of the BIT**

- Provide a safe environment for members of the college community
- Provide a safe emotional environment for the college community
- Promote peace of mind for friends and family of the college community

## **Training and Certifications**

The AVC BIT has received extensive training from the National Behavioral Intervention Team Association (NaBITA) which is an organization for the support and professional development of behavioral intervention team members and specializes in behavioral intervention teams on college campuses. The BIT also participated in the NaBITA annual conference and the NaBITA BIT Best Practices Certification Course.

These trainings and certification provides education, resources, and support to the BIT to make our campus and workplace safer through caring prevention and intervention.



### When to Make a Report

Is someone you know:

- experiencing a decline in academic or work performance?
- demonstrating disruptive or disturbing behavior?
- showing dramatic changes in appearance, behavior, or weight?
- having problems at home, with classes, or at work?
- making disturbing comments in conversation, email, letters, social media posting or papers?
- sad, anxious, or experiencing dramatic mood shifts?
- abusing alcohol or drugs?
- isolating themselves socially?
- acting paranoid or suspicious?
- frequently angry or easily frustrated?
- struggling with health problems?

These behaviors, especially when more than one are present, may be signs that the person is in distress.

Your report to the AVC BIT can make a difference and there are many resources available at AVC to help.

## **How to Make a Report**

To make a report to the BIT visit www.avc.edu/BIT and choose "Submit a BIT Report".

This form is not used for emergencies. In the event of an emergency please contact the AVC Sheriffs at (661) 722-6399 or by dialing 4444 from any AVC phone (excluding payphones).