



The University of Texas at San Antonio™

POLICE DEPARTMENT *Community Affairs Section*

RUNNER BEAT

ISSUE—116

A campus safety publication for the UTSA community

MAY 2016

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

#BREAKTHESTIGMA

20 Mental Health
16 Month

**Chief Steve
Barrera Retiring
After 37 Years
of Service**

*Crisis
Counseling
Exercise*



We all experience emotional ups and downs from time to time caused by events in our lives. Mental health conditions go beyond these emotional reactions and become something longer lasting. They are medical conditions that cause changes in how we think and feel and in our mood. They are not the result of personal weakness, lack of character or poor upbringing. With proper treatment, people can realize their full potential, cope with the stresses of life, work productively and make meaningful contributions to the world. Without mental health we cannot be fully healthy. But understanding mental health isn't only about being able to identify symptoms and having a name for these conditions. There is a complicated ecosystem involving local communities, the federal government, research institutions, private companies and other pieces that are all trying to fit together. Each piece contributes to our understanding of mental health—if one is missing, the picture isn't complete.

Trying to tell the difference between

what expected behaviors are and what might be the signs of a mental illness isn't always easy. There's no easy test that can let someone know if there is mental illness or if actions and thoughts might be typical behaviors of a person or the result of a physical illness.

Each illness has its own set of symptoms but some common signs of mental illness in adults and adolescents can include the following.

- Excessive worrying or fear
- Feeling excessively sad or low
- Confused thinking or problems concentrating and learning
- Extreme mood changes, including uncontrollable “highs” or feelings of euphoria
- Prolonged or strong feelings of irritability or anger
- Avoiding friends and social activities
- Difficulties understanding or relating to other people
- Changes in sleeping habits or feeling tired and low energy
- Changes in eating habits such as increased hunger or lack of appetite
- Changes in sex drive
- Difficulty perceiving reality (delusions or hallucinations, in which a person

2016 Mental Health Month



- experiences and senses things that don't exist in objective reality)
- Inability to perceive changes in one's own feelings, behavior or personality ("lack of insight" or anosognosia)
 - Abuse of substances like alcohol or drugs
 - Multiple physical ailments without obvious causes (such as headaches, stomach aches, vague and ongoing "aches and pains")
 - Thinking about suicide
 - Inability to carry out daily activities or handle daily problems and stress
 - An intense fear of weight gain or concern with appearance (mostly in adolescents)

Mental health conditions can also begin to develop in young children. Because they're still learning how to identify and talk about thoughts and emotions, their most obvious symptoms are behavioral. Symptoms in children may include:

- Changes in school performance
- Excessive worry or anxiety, for instance fighting to avoid bed or school
- Hyperactive behavior
- Frequent nightmares
- Frequent disobedience or aggression
- Frequent temper tantrums

<https://www.nami.org/>



Crisis Helpline
(210) 458-4140



UTSAPD Chief of Police Steve Barrera will be retiring at the end of May, after serving 6 years as Chief with the department. Chief Barrera came to UTSAPD on May 1, 2010 after serving 31 years at the San Antonio Police Department as a Deputy Chief for the Service and Support Division. During the span of his 6 years with UTSAPD, Chief Barrera led the department to see some of its most successful years. Throughout his tenure here at UTSAPD, he led the department while the University experienced rapid growth & expansion, during the creation & implementation of a Division I football team, as well as a visit from the First Lady to name just a few highlights. Chief Barrera has always been humble in his leadership style, but during his time the UTSA Police Department has grown exponentially and he has set the department up well for the future. If you happen to see Chief Barrera before the end of the month, be sure to thank him for his solid years of service that he contributed to keeping the UTSA community a safe place to learn and work.

CRISIS-COUNSELING EXERCISE

Recently, we have felt the impact of severe weather in San Antonio, such as the hailstorms that affected San Antonio. Not only is personal preparedness important, but UTSA departments should also prepare for the impact of severe weather that can unexpectedly affect UTSA. As part of department preparedness, recently the Office of Emergency Management partnered with UTSA Counseling Services to assess their emergency plans and ability to respond to an emergency event that may require crisis counseling or psychological first aid.

UTSA
Counseling
Services



The UTSA Office of Emergency Management designed the tabletop exercise which included severe weather scenarios from the National Weather Service to test the response procedures of Counseling staff to an after-hours emergency event on the Main Campus.

Seventeen staff members were grouped into three teams and presented with two scenarios to determine how they would respond to each event. The first scenario was a tornado warning for North Central Bexar County, whereby the storm was predicted to pass near the UTSA main campus. The second scenario involved a tornado that touched down on the UTSA main campus. Due to the impact of the tornado, Counseling Services would arrive on scene to support any students who are affected by such an event.

<http://s.hswstatic.com/gif/tornado-orig.jpg>

This exercise identified strengths and areas for improvement prior to a real world incident. Preparing for a real world event during a sunny day is critical to developing a strong emergency program. Let's all do our part to prepare for crisis, thereby fostering a disaster resilient university. Be Rowdy Ready!

As an accredited agency with The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA), the UTSA Police Department is always seeking ways to enhance and improve our policies, procedures, and law enforcement practices. CALEA provides credentialing

and routine reports that support decision-making and resource allocation.

Increased Community Advocacy Accreditation embodies the precepts of community-oriented policing. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together to prevent and control

UTSA[®] POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION

services for law enforcement agencies, public safety communications agencies, public safety training academies, and campus security agencies. The CALEA Accreditation Process is a proven modern management model; once implemented, it presents the Chief of Police, on a continuing basis, with a blueprint that promotes the efficient use of resources and improves service delivery—regardless of the size, geographic location, or functional responsibilities of the agency. Some of the benefits include:

Greater Accountability Within the Agency

CALEA standards give the Chief of Police a proven management system of written directives, sound training, clearly defined lines of authority,

challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.

The UTSA Police Department is committed to supporting our students, faculty, staff, & researchers in achieving the designation of a Tier One university. Subscribing to this process ensures that we are equipped in maintaining a high level of integrity and excellence in carrying out our duties and responsibilities to the citizens of the UTSA community, as well as external stakeholders.

Accreditation Works!

Congratulation to Anastacio Alvarez!

Mr. Anastacio Alvarez was recently selected as the Environmental Waste and Recycling Safety Coordinator for Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management. Anastacio has been with EHSRM for seven and a half years, coming to us from Florida where he was a manager for UPS operations. Anastacio initially started with EHSRM as a Safety Technician I for Recycling and has gone through a series of progressive promotions, having achieved the position of Safety Specialist II prior to accepting the job as Environmental Waste and Recycling Safety Coordinator effective April 1, 2016.

Anastacio gives 100% of his effort every day to our solid non-hazardous waste and recycling program and if you just take a look around our campus area, you will see the ever evolving improvement

in keeping our campus environment clean and free from debris and clutter. In his new position, he works with our 2 trash and recycling technicians ensuring timely service and cleanliness of all out-



door containers daily to keep the campus with a more aesthetically pleasing look. The 6 student worker / work study students he also oversees manage all the recyclable material daily and promote the recycling program to faculty, staff and students.

Anastacio has been instrumental in implementing various recycling programs at UTSA to include: UTSA competing in the Grand Champion category of RecycleMania; the introduction of the mini-trash and recycling program for all offices as part of EHSRM sustainability efforts; reducing the number of outdoor trash and recycling containers necessary, thereby decreasing the time dedicated each week to servicing those containers; and finally the introduction of the Big Belly Solar Powered trash and recycling containers with a 5 to 1 compaction ratio. These Big Belly units were placed in dedicated high use areas and not only do they reduce the number of service intervals, but they keep out animal pests (especially raccoons and opossums) and look great.

Again, Congratulations to Anastacio Alvarez on his new position.

UTSA RECYCLING

UTSA POLICE DEPARTMENT



Celebrates 43rd Birthday



April 20th marked the birth of the University of Texas at San Antonio Police Department. On April 20, 1973, Manuel Chavez was appointed as the first Chief of Police for UTSA and serves as a reminder of the creation of our police force. Chavez was commissioned by The UT System Office of Director of Police which was created in 1967 after an active shooting incident that took place on August 1, 1966 at the University of Texas at Austin.

At 12 noon a student by the name of Charles Whitman took a position on the 27th floor of U.T. Austin's main building tower, and began shooting people at random. Shootings in our nation were not unheard of, but a mass attack to the extent Charles Whitman committed were not previously documented or reported.

Whitman had served as a Marine before enrolling in the University of Texas and suffered from mental illness and acute fits of anger. Whitman had killed his mother and wife before ascending the 300-foot tower, targeting people in the vicinity. He ultimately murdered 16 people in total and injured 35 others before he was killed by police, who stormed the tower.

Four minutes after Whitman first fired from the tower, Austin patrolman Billy Speed was one of the first police officers to arrive. Speed took refuge behind a columned stone wall. Whitman shot through the six-inch spacing between the columns of the wall and killed Speed. Medical personnel used an armored car and provisioned ambulances from local funeral homes to reach the wounded. A 30

-year-old ambulance technician named Morris Hohmann was shot in the leg as he tried to evacuate the injured. However, the wound severed a major artery.

Three officers who responded to reports of the sniper were Ramiro Martinez (accompanied by civilian Allen Crum), Houston McCoy, and Jerry Day. Prior to advancing upon the tower, McCoy had seen his colleague Billy Speed killed. After about an hour from the first fired shot the trio, accompanied by civilian Allen Crum whom they encountered as they ran toward the tower, were the first to reach the tower's observation deck. After reaching the 26th floor by elevator, they encountered several more bodies as they climbed the steps to the 27th floor where Whitman was located.

ed. Martinez, closely followed by McCoy, proceeded north on the east deck, while Day, followed by Crum, proceeded west on the south deck, with the intention of encircling Whitman. Several feet before Crum reached the southwest corner, Crum accidentally discharged the borrowed rifle. Whitman was apparently initially unaware of Martinez and McCoy on the observation deck. He was partially shielded by the deck tower lights and in a position to defend against assaults from either corner, but his attention was drawn to where Crum had accidentally discharged his rifle. As Whitman sat crouched with his back positioned on the north wall, Martinez jumped around the corner into the northeast area and rapidly fired all six rounds from his .38 police revolver from a distance of roughly 50 feet at Whitman – all of which missed. As Martinez fired, McCoy jumped to the right of Martinez and fired two fatal shots of 00-buckshot with his 12-gauge shotgun, hitting Whitman in the

head, neck, and left side. Martinez threw down his now-empty revolver and grabbed McCoy's shotgun, running to Whitman's supine body and firing point blank into his upper left arm. Martinez threw the shotgun onto the deck and hurriedly left the scene, repeatedly shouting the words: "I got him."

Today marks our Police Department's 43rd year of existence. As we remember the first UTSA officer who took the oath of office, we shall never forget those officers who unselfishly risked their lives to "preserve, protect, and defend" on that dreadful day in Austin Texas. At the time of the shootings, the APD had no specialized tactical unit to deploy in response to reports of a sniper. Officers were equipped with revolvers and shotguns, which were ineffective against a sniper; some went home to get their own rifles.

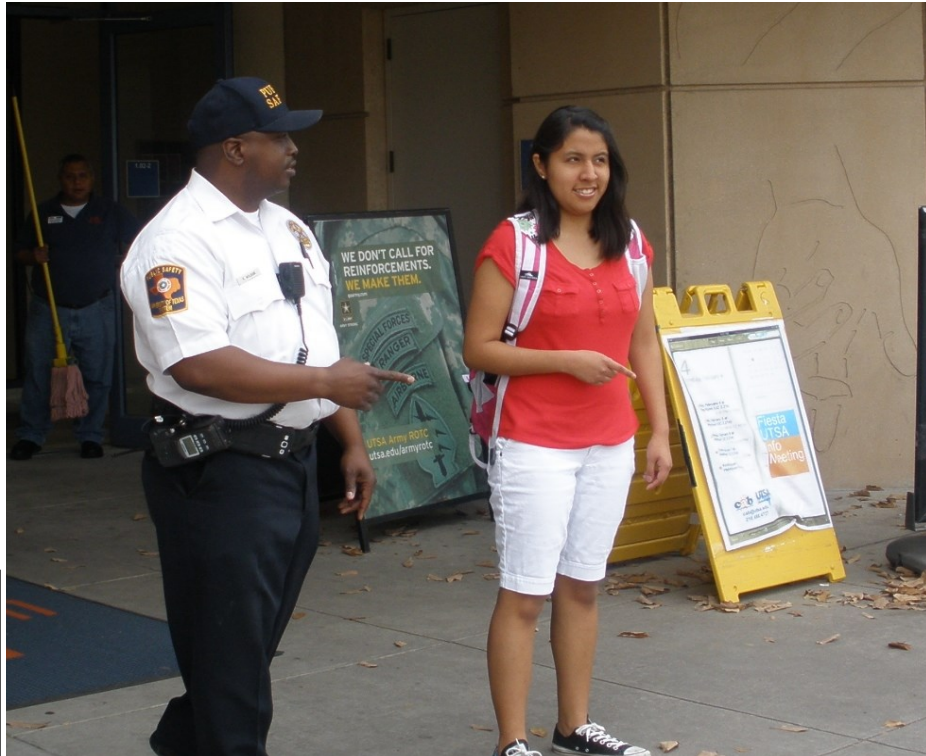
SGT Jovany Vega



SAFETY ESCORTS

The UTSA Police Department provides safety escorts to all students, faculty, staff, and visitors of UTSA campuses. A uniformed police personnel will meet you at your location and escort you to your destination. The service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Request a safety escort by:

- Calling **210-458-4242**,
- Activating a blue phone, or
- Use the UTSA Non-Emergency call but on UTSA Mobile app



**IF YOU FEEL
UNCOMFORTABLE,
DON'T WALK
ALONE.
CALL UTSA POLICE**

CRIME REPORT—APRIL 2016

The below is a summary of the crimes that occurred as of last month. For more information, go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd and click on *Crime Stats*.

THEFTS	7	ALCOHOL ARRESTS	12
BURGLARY OF VEHICLE	0	DRUG ARRESTS	30
ASSAULTS	4	DWI/DUI ARRESTS	2
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	0	OTHER CRIMES	15

LOST & FOUND

QTY	Item	Description
8	Bag/Backpacks	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
11	Binders/Folders	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
32	Books	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
10	Calculators	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
45	Cell phone & Laptop	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
7	Cell phones	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
20	Earbuds/Earphones	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
32	Jewelry & Watches	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
41	Keys	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
22	Misc. Electronics	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
101	Misc. Items	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
21	Prescription glasses & Sunglasses	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
11	Umbrellas	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
90	USB/Memory Storage	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
3	Tool	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
1	Skateboard	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
1	Knives	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
1	Personal documents	Anna Hernandez
1	Check	Hector Longoria
25	Wallet	Alexis Rodriguez, no name
1	Purse	Ashley Hungerford
6	Texas Driver License	S. Margaret, R. Contreras, A. Trochez-Vargas, A. Fada, D. Mcdaniel, C. Beneke
3	Chase	Taufeiq Jebreel, Kadijah Dancy, Mariela Arredondo
1	Bank of America	Abdullah Alfarhan
1	USAA	Alexander J. Birnel
2	First National Bank	Lisa Garza, Marcus T. Crumley
1	SSFCU	Anthony Kuri
1	TDECU	Bryan Rodriguez
1	BCBS insurance card	Lonnie L. Bradshaw
1	Caremark Insurance	Pamela Youngman

AROUND THE PD



Administrative Professional Appreciation Day

The UTSA Police Department held a team building luncheon to celebrate the National Administrative Professional Appreciation Day. UTSA PD appreciates the stellar staff of administrative professionals that keep things running smooth!

UTSA PD wraps up a month long of events that promoted the UTSA Beaks Up. Speaks Up Active Bystander Intervention Program and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. UTSA PD was honored to co-host the Take Back the Night event with The Rape Crisis Center, The Women's Studies Institute, College of Education and Human Development, and Business Auxiliary Services. The event was aimed to help bring healing to survivors and educate the UTSA Community about resources. [Check out Kens5 media coverage of the event.](#)



Late Night Breakfast

2016 University Excellence Award for Leadership



Sergeant Jovany Vega was selected to receive the 2016 University Excellence Award for Leadership. The goal of the UTSA University Excellence Awards is to honor outstanding UTSA staff across the tri-campuses who demonstrate excellent work performance and leadership. Congratulations to SGT Vega for a well deserved award!

UTSA Police Department

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