Eagle Watch
Meadows Center for Health Resources

UNT Eagle Watch Bystander Program
Eagle Watch is a bystander intervention program that strives to encourage students to take positive and safe steps to intervene when they witness problematic behaviors or situations on or off campus.

What to do when helping in an emergency:
- Call 9-1-1 if needed
- Stay Calm
- Gather Info
- Consider options
- Provide Support
- Know your limits- walk away if it is unsure

What to do when helping in a non-emergency:
- Consider frequency, duration, and severity
- Define the problem
- Develop a game plan and determine goal
- Set boundaries
- Maintain respect
- Consider options and know resources!

On and Off Campus Resources
- 9-1-1
- Denton Police Department- non emergency line (940) 349-8181
- UNT Police Department (940) 565-3000
- Dean of Students Office (940) 565-2548
- UNT Counseling and Testing Center (940) 565-2741
- UNT Meadows Center for Health Resources (940) 565-2787
- Denton County Friends of the Family; crisis line (940) 382-2723

"Knowing what’s right doesn’t mean much unless you do what’s right.”

- Theodore Roosevelt
Reasons why people don’t intervene and help others!

- Societal norms portray that you should not get involved
- Unsure how to respond
- May not feel responsible
- May believe someone else will intervene and take responsibly to resolve the situation
- Wish to avoid the awkwardness associated with intervening in a dispute
- Fear for oneself in a given situation, or risk that they might become injured physically, emotionally, or socially.

Goals of Eagle Watch

- Provide educational information about bystander intervention
- Identify the role of bystanders in preventing situations that can lead to violence
- Raise awareness of helping behaviors
- Increase motivation to help others
- Familiarize students with on and off campus resources

The bystander effect refers to the phenomenon in which with the greater number of people present, the less likely an individual will intervene in an emergency situation or help a person in distress.

A survey of several Texas universities revealed that almost 90% of students stated a problem could have been avoided with intervention and up to 85% indicated they would like to learn skills to intervene!

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”
- Martin Luther King Jr.

How to be an active bystander

By ignoring problematic behaviors we passively accept it as a cultural norm. There are ways to be an active bystander in a safe manner and stop incidents before they occur.

- Confront abusive behavior by not remaining silent.
- Gently offer support if you suspect someone close to you is being abused
- Watch out for your friends
- Speak up if someone says something offensive, derogatory, or abusive.
- Be aware of your surroundings, and anticipate problems.

Notes:

- “I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.” –Elie Wiesel