

4R Action Toolkit – *Urgent Situations*

RECOGNIZE	Cues – What are the signs of risk (e.g. talk of suicide, extreme
Take a moment to	anger)?
prepare yourself for	Relationship – Are you the most appropriate person available to
the conversation and	
	respond? If you are the only person, consider calling for
consider options.	assistance.
Take a deep breath.	Goal – Identify needs. (E.g. Stop or prevent a behaviour;
DECROND	Move/separate people; professional help)
RESPOND Move quiffly into	Approach – Move deliberately. Decrease stimuli (e.g.
Move swiftly into	bystanders, prioritize issues) Develop Rapport – Introduce yourself. Speak your intention to
responding. Have a	
support person with	help. Share your concern.
you if possible.	Build understanding – Ask the person about their experienceHow they feel? /How long it's lasted?
	Have they taken any action or spoken to anyone?
	What do they want?
	Share concerns for risk: Objectively state your concerns
	directly, indicating more help is needed.
RESOURCE	Brainstorm next steps – Ask the person what they want/ who
Get more help, then	might help. Share your ideas.
tend to yourself.	Decide – Follow the person's wishes. If not possible/sufficient,
	restate your concerns, and goal(s). Share your decision and
	rationale.
	Connect with other supports – Call for more help if needed. For
	immediate safety concerns, do not leave the person alone.
	Closure – Thank the person for working with you (e.g. I know
	that was challenging. Thank you for helping me understand. I
	hope things feel better for you soon.")
	You – Breathe. Debrief. Self-care.
RECONNECT	Inquire about now – Are things worse/better/same?
Follow up after the	Worse / same:
crisis. Find out how	Use the 4R Action Toolkit again.
the person feels and	Better:
reassess the	 Listen – Ask about the person's experience of the crisis.
situation.	Don't interrupt, even if your experience was different.
	Share – Briefly share your experience of the crisis. Include
	what you saw, how you felt, and your safety goal(s).
	 Learn – Ask about what lead up to the crisis. Brainstorm
	ways to prevent similar situations in the future. Ask how
	you can support them moving forward.
	you can support them moving lorward.