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## Handout 39: Individual Crisis Intervention Observation Form

Use this handout to record your observations relative to each step of the Individual Crisis Intervention process.

1.	Establish psychological contact.	

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O _	a.	Introduce the session.	

- a. Introduce the session.i. Identifies caregiver.
  - ii. If necessary, addresses basic needs.
  - b. Express empathy.
    - i. Shares understanding of crisis facts.
    - ii. Demonstrates understanding of crisis-related feelings.
  - c. Show respect.
    - Pauses to listen.
    - ii. Does not dominate the conversation.
    - iii. Does not try to smooth things over.
  - d. Show warmth.
    - i. Verbal and paraverbal communication is congruent.
    - ii. If appropriate, uses physical contact.

2. Verify emotional readiness to begin problem identification and problem solving.



- a. Determines if the student is ready to problem-solve.
- b. If the student is not ready, stabilizes the student.
- c. If the student is ready, begins the problem-solving process.
- 3. Identify and prioritize crisis-generated problems. Identify the most immediate concerns.



- a. Crisis story.
- b. Problems generated by the crisis event.
- c. Crisis-generated problems, ranked from most to least important.
  - i.
  - ii.
  - iii.
  - iv.
  - ٧.

- Address crisis-generated problems. Encourage the crisis survivor to be as responsible for coping with crisis-generated challenges as is possible.
  - a. Ask: Has student made coping attempts already? Validates adaptive coping strategies.
  - b. Facilitate: Explores additional coping strategies. To the extent possible, has helped the student identify his or her own adaptive coping strategies.
  - c. Propose: As indicated, proposes using alternative coping strategies. Does not hesitate to explicitly direct the crisis survivor toward adaptive coping strategies.
  - d. Level of lethality:
    - i. If lethality is low and student is capable of action, takes a facilitative stance (i.e., the crisis survivor initiates and is responsible for coping actions).
    - ii. If lethality is high or student is not capable of acting, then takes a directive stance (i.e., the crisis intervener initiates and is responsible for coping actions).
- 5. Evaluate and conclude the ICI session. Ensure that the individual is moving toward adaptive crisis resolution.



- a. Verify identifying information.
- b. Identify a time for recontacting and following up.
- c. Conduct assessment regarding whether immediate coping has been restored.

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