

# **Connect and Belong**

Breaking the cycle of isolation and loneliness.





### **How Nod Works**

#### **Ideas for Connecting**

Nod provides college students with engaging prompts rooted in positive psychology and the science of social connection to help students build social relationships.

#### **Reflection Activities**

The app experience provides short exercises that help students process social experiences, reduce self criticism, and build resilience toward their social goals during college.

#### Peer-to-Peer Perspective

To break the 'myth of magical friendship,' Nod provides real student perspectives to reinforce the message that building connections takes time, effort, and patience.

# Research-Backed. Student Approved.

Nod's randomized controlled trial published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research.



## The Study

#### **About the Research**

4 week waitlist controlled design

#### Who Participated

- 220 incoming first year students at the University of Oregon
- 47% identified as non-white
- 34% identified as first generation



#### The Outcomes

Nod use **buffered against an increase loneliness and depression** while supporting improvements in secondary outcomes, including:

- Sleep Quality
- Campus Belonging
- Perceived Social Support
- Intention to persist in school



#### **Bring Nod to Your Campus**

Schedule a demo, discuss partnerships, and learn about our impact.
youatcollege.com | inquiries@gritdigitalhealth.com



#### Evidence-Based Skill-Building Tools

Nod is a research-backed tool, rooted in science, that is proven to develop the necessary skills to buffer students against loneliness, isolation, and depression.



# Turnkey Promotional Strategies

The Nod partnership equips administrators with engaging promotional collateral, data insights, and marketing strategies to drive student adoption.



#### **Student-Powered Design**

Our co-design philosophy gave students the power to define how loneliness impacts them, ensuring our team developed an effective solution to address their needs.

## What our network is saying

"It's nice that the app has actual goals for you to do. I try to set social goals for myself, but this app makes me more accountable and encourages me to be creative in social interaction. It's actually really fun!"

- First-Year Student, University of Oregon

"Nod allows me to think of ways to interact with people that I probably wouldn't have thought of on my own. It opens more opportunities for me."

- First-Year Student, University of Oregon

## Student-Powered Design

Everything in Nod was co-developed with students. From the skill-building challenges to brand elements, college students were at the core of Nod's design.



