



**Faculty Council of Community Colleges**  
**Transparency on Mental Health Spending at SUNY**  
**CSL3.2021-2022**  
**Passed by the FCCC**  
**April 2, 2022**

**WHEREAS** on June 23, 2021, upon recommendation of former Chancellor Malatras, the SUNY Board of Trustees approved the recommendations of the SUNY Student Mental Health and Wellness Task Force; and

**WHEREAS** these recommendations recommended the expansion of mental health services for students across all SUNY colleges and universities, including bringing additional licensed mental health professional onto campuses, building community partnerships, and finding new funding streams to provide expanded treatment options for students; and

**WHEREAS** on July 23, 2021, former Chancellor Malatras announced a “historic investment in student mental health services. . . on the heels of a once-in-a-generation health crisis that is still producing alarming rates of depression, anxiety, and social isolation among students;<sup>1</sup>” and

**WHEREAS** said investment used \$24 million in grants through the American Rescue Plan to expand and enhance student mental health services; and

**WHEREAS** former Chancellor Malatras directed all SUNY colleges and universities to utilize said funding in pursuit of the above; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.suny.edu/suny-news/press-releases/7-21/7-23-21/mental-health-investment.html>

**WHEREAS** the above constitutes a recognition of the growing mental health needs of the SUNY community, particularly the increase in the number of community members in active crisis; and

**WHEREAS** simultaneously many community colleges in the system have either discontinued or significantly decreased availability of mental health services on campus with many now directing students to outsourced online counseling services; and

**WHEREAS** 24% of SUNY campuses across the system report not having an in-person counseling center; and

**WHEREAS** to date there has been no accounting provided of how the aforementioned grant money was allocated, distributed, or spent;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chancellor of the SUNY system should immediately investigate and report on how the aforementioned funds were allocated, distributed, and spent; and

**RESOLVED** such accounting should specify to which programs funds were directed at each campus, and whether said funds went to supporting virtual or in-person mental health services.