

## **STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION**

December 11, 2024

**TOPIC:** Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) Spending Authority Request for Mental Health Services provided by Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH)

**PRESENTED BY:** Dr. Landon K. Pirius, Red Rocks Community College President

### **RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Transform The Student Experience - Implement and scale-up proven student support mechanisms that partner with students to confront and overcome educational barriers.

### **EXPLANATION:**

Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) is requesting SBCCOE approval for spending authority in institutional funds up to an overall project cost of \$570,048 for the continuation of services provided by Jefferson Center for Mental Health. Negotiated cost increases have accounted for an overall contract increase and approval is needed to amend the current contract for an additional \$71,047, and totaling \$570,048, to continue services for the remainder of FY25.

### **Project Summary**

RRCC has utilized the services of the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for several years. The approval of this spending authority will provide for continuity of our on-site mental health services to students.

RRCC utilizes JCMH to provide on-site adult counseling services to students by providing one full-time and one part-time mental health professionals. The counselors assigned to Red Rocks Community College must meet the knowledge skills and abilities as a licensed clinician.

### **Project Details**

Counseling Services include:

- Providing short-term counseling services and crisis intervention to a diverse student population at Red Rocks Community College. Short term is defined as up to 8 sessions per semester.
- Referring acute and non-acute students to community resources and linking students to ongoing mental health and related services and resources at Jefferson and/or in the community as needed.
- Staying knowledgeable and up to date regarding community resources.
- Completing individual assessments and develops individualized treatment plans based on brief

therapy model.

- Engaging clients in the treatment process and goal setting.
- Working constructively with students to reach agreed upon outcome, and actively coordinate care with internal and external providers.
- Maintaining appropriate professional standards and providing appropriate follow-up for students
- Effectively responding to student needs and problems, initiating and maintaining positive interactions, and providing timely response to phone calls, pages, email and other requests.
- Identifying risk factors including lethality.
- Maintaining relevant documentation for treatment services provided.
- Maintaining a posted schedule and number of service hours (up to 40 hours per week for full-time and up to 20 hours per week for part-time).
- Providing general summary data on number of visits, number of unique visitors, treatment trends and number of referrals to community resources to the Director of the Student Health Clinic on a monthly basis. Due on the 5th of each subsequent month.
- Collaborating with Red Rocks Community College staff including the Student Health Clinic to provide awareness to students of the services offered.
- Consulting with Student Health Clinic Director on an as-needed basis to develop holistic health programs.
- Participating in the Student Behavioral Intervention Team to assess student mental health issues.
- Developing and facilitating outreach to departments on campus with regard to mental health issues, which includes training for RRCC faculty and staff, debriefing after a crisis, and training on specific topics as determined by the Project Manager (4 to 6 trainings per fiscal year).
- Consulting with the RRCC Behavior Intervention Team (BIT) on an as-needed basis.
- Assisting, when necessary, in facilitating crisis assessment for RRCC employees provided by the Crisis and Recovery Center.
- Following Trauma Informed guidelines.
- Promoting Integrated Care services.
- Working closely with other Jefferson Center departments, such as Access, Navigation, Recovery, Wellness, Outpatient and Intensive, to triage clients to appropriate level of services.

- Facilitating referrals to appropriate agencies or organizations and staying knowledgeable and up to date regarding community resources.
- Collaborating with Red Rocks Community College staff and serving as a subject matter expert on college committees as appropriate.
- Conducting on-site initial emergency assessments as appropriate and triaging with the Crisis and Recovery Center as needed for disposition planning.
- Collaborating and consulting with students participating in the Peer Counseling Internship Program.
- Complying with requirements of regulatory agencies such as OBH, and following laws and statutes such as HIPPA, Child Abuse and Duty-to-Warn reporting.
- Providing consultation/oversight of Behavioral Health internships to increase the capacity of students served and provide additional training/classes for students as needed.

### **Total Space Impacts**

Red Rocks Community College will provide office space to accommodate on-site services at Lakewood and Arvada campuses. The counselors will provide their own equipment and communication tools, such as a laptop.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board approve RRCC's request for a spending authority increase of \$71,047 for a total contract cost of \$570,048 to continue services at the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for the remainder of FY 25. Staff also recommends that the Board delegate signature authority on any contract amendment or documents related to this spending authority request to the System Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration on the condition that all Board and state required processes are met.