

Great Falls College MSU, in response to the Suicide Prevention and Student Mental Health Task Force recommendations to the Board of Regents, partnered with local providers, Great Falls Mental Health Triage Services (GFMHTS) to provide three (3) free counseling sessions to our students in crisis. Great Falls College MSU has been utilizing general funds to pay for each session (up to 3) for the student. While many students have taken advantage of the services since implementation, it has not been used at the level that was expected, primarily due to the counseling being conducted predominantly off-campus. We believe an increase in utilization would occur if there is a consistent mental health provider presence on campus.

According to data reviewed in the National College Health Association National College Health Assessment from Fall 2018, mental health issues are a serious concern (see data) with college students with 42.7% saying that in the last 12 months they felt so depressed that it was difficult to function.

By implementing the counseling fee, Great Falls College MSU is hoping to reach out and help students impacted by mental health issues.

National College Health Association National College Health Assessment (Fall 2018)

**Felt very sad**

Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total
No, never	26.6	14.1	18.0
No, not last 12 months	15.2	11.5	12.6
Yes, last 2 weeks	25.2	37.0	33.5
Yes, last 30 days	11.8	16.0	14.7
Yes, in last 12 months	21.1	21.4	21.2
<i>Any time within the last 12 months</i>	58.1	74.4	69.4

**Felt so depressed that it was difficult to function**

Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total
No, never	48.6	35.0	38.9
No, not last 12 months	17.8	19.0	18.4
Yes, last 2 weeks	12.9	18.5	17.2
Yes, last 30 days	5.9	9.4	8.5
Yes, in last 12 months	14.8	18.1	17.1
<i>Any time within the last 12 months</i>	33.6	46.0	42.7

**Seriously considered suicide**

Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total
No, never	77.6	70.5	71.8
No, not last 12 months	12.2	16.5	15.5
Yes, last 2 weeks	2.1	2.7	2.7
Yes, last 30 days	2.0	2.2	2.2
Yes, in last 12 months	6.2	8.1	7.8
<i>Any time within the last 12 months</i>	10.2	13.0	12.7

**Attempted suicide**

Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total
No, never	91.3	87.3	87.9
No, not last 12 months	7.0	10.6	10.0
Yes, last 2 weeks	0.5	0.3	0.4
Yes, last 30 days	0.2	0.3	0.2
Yes, in last 12 months	1.1	1.6	1.5
<i>Any time within the last 12 months</i>	1.7	2.1	2.1