



**Undergraduate
Student Government**

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

**February 7th, 2023
Student Senate Session
S.S.B. #23**

Sponsors: Senator Carrell, Senator Clare
Referred to: Finance Committee
Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

AN ACT

Allocating \$25,000 from the USG Contingency to support CommUnity Crisis Services

Section 1. Short Title

This bill may be cited as “USG Support of CommUnity Crisis Services”.

Section 2. Background and Discussion

CommUnity Crisis Services has continued to provide a wide array of services vital to the University of Iowa community. Being only one of two crisis call centers¹ in the state of Iowa, they serve as the first line of contact for many individuals dealing with a mental health crisis. Additionally, CommUnity provides triage counselors to the newly established GuideLink Center and suicide prevention training to any individual seeking such instruction. Their mobile crisis response enables CommUnity to respond to a litany of mental health crisis with in-person health counselors. Roughly 600,000 Iowans live with some form of mental illness according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). 52.8% of undergraduate students at U-Iowa report feeling moderate psychological distress and 21.7% report serious psychological distress according to the National College Health Assessment III. With mental health needs continuing to grow, support of crisis services remains paramount.

CommUnity Crisis Services also acts as a community foodbank and financial assistance partner. Operating both a food pantry and mobile food bank, CommUnity can help address food insecurity anywhere in the Iowa City area. Furthermore, CommUnity provides financial support in a wide variety of forms including rent assistance, prescription medication assistance, and

¹ <https://www.press-citizen.com/story/news/2022/07/15/iowa-988-suicide-prevention-number-heres-who-will-answer-lifeline/10007483002/>

education enabling items.² All of which are easily accessible and regularly utilized by University of Iowa students.

Section 3. Budget

Fine Line Item	Cost
USG Financial Support of CommUnity Crisis Services	\$25,000

Section 4. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by the Undergraduate Student Government upon the signature of the USG President.

Alexis Carfrae
_____, **Speaker of the Senate**
Alexis Carfrae

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2022-2023 Student Senate Session.

APPROVED on 2/7/23, by

Patrick Johnson
_____, **USG President**
Patrick Johnson

² <https://builtbycommunity.org/financialsupport/>