



Anthem Student Advantage and Christie Campus Health Partner to Close Critical Gap in College Student Mental Health

Pandemic has underscored necessity of meeting students' unique mental health needs

Anthem Student Advantage and Christie Campus Health today announced an exclusive partnership to help colleges and universities address escalating rates of anxiety and depression reported on campuses throughout the country. By combining their respective strengths, the two companies will provide a student-centered mental health platform that helps counseling centers meet the high demand for services.

“College students are seeking mental health support at rates that far outpace capacity – and with issues that are best addressed by a range of service options, Virtual, Telehealth, In-person visits on campus, at home or traveling abroad” said Richard Fuchs, V.P Integrated Business Units at Anthem Inc. “By teaming up with the college health experts at Christie Campus Health to offer seamless access to Anthem’s global network of providers, we are helping address this urgent college mental health crisis.”

In the 2019 National College Health Assessment, 45.1% of students reported feeling so depressed that it was difficult to function at some point over the previous 12 months. 65.7% reported feeling overwhelming anxiety over the same time period. Prevalence of depression among college students increased since the pandemic compared to fall 2019 (40.9% vs 35.7%).

Christie Campus Health currently helps over 40 colleges and universities bring timely and accessible mental health and wellbeing support to more than 430,000 students. The Anthem network and platform plays a significant role in our ability to support the University System of Georgia and their 26 colleges and universities across the state.

“Christie Campus Health is so pleased to add Anthem’s network to the care options offered through our product, CONNECT@College,” said Kate Begley, CEO of Christie Campus Health. “The quality and reach of Anthem’s global, multi-cultural

provider network is unmatched by any other platform; meanwhile our deep experience in the student health space makes this a winning combination.”

Christie Campus Health’s CONNECT@College product will allow Anthem Student Advantage to offer a comprehensive solution that focuses on both the physical and emotional wellbeing of today’s college student. The addition brings its higher education customers a solution to one of their biggest challenges – meeting the high demand for appropriate, mental health services on campus – which has been made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Anthem’s provider network includes both in-person and telehealth options with access to 83,000 clinicians located across the globe in 200+ countries providing services in English and 80-90 additional languages as well as TDD/TTY services and Braille materials. Additionally, Anthem clinicians will manage the CONNECT@College 24/7 support line offering students in-the-moment support and linkages to next steps, regardless of time of day, a student’s location, language or ability.

Anthem’s network and clinical support are an integral part of the Christie Campus Health CONNECT@College product, an integrated mental health platform that wraps around the services currently offered by college counseling centers to seamlessly provide additional levels of mental health support options.

The full CONNECT@College platform includes:

- A 24/7/365 support line staffed exclusively by licensed mental health counselors that offers students in-the-moment support and linkages to next steps.
- Telehealth and in-person treatment sessions at no cost to the student available both domestically and internationally.
- Personal Student Navigators that assist with referrals and navigating the complexities of the healthcare system.
- Access to a student-centered online cognitive behavioral training program.
- A Wellness Information Hub and App that provides educational content on a range of issues tailored to college students.
- Psychiatric prescribing capabilities.
- Virtual Coping with COVID workshops to help students learn skills to manage the challenges of the pandemic.