



To the Augustana Faculty Council,

The Augustana Students' Association and Augustana Hall Coordinators write to you jointly on behalf of students to call for more **in-person** health and wellness resources to be set up and made available to students on our campus.

Health and wellness are crucial to the success of students at our campus and around the world. As it stands, our campus has taken steps towards providing resources for students in the form of services that are available online and through counselling services offered to students. However, the situation on the ground is **dire** and calls for more in-person resources to be set up for students and at a fast pace. It is unfortunate to hear that students on our campus are struggling with sexual violence, mental health and their general wellbeing. **This is reality.**

As it stands, the majority of the resources available to students are **not** located on campus. For the few on-campus resources, none are available to students on a 24 hours basis, nor, 7 days a week. This is worrying. In light of the above-stated fact, as a joint body, we would like to call for the **hiring of additional staff, on a full-time basis, who would support counselling services on campus.** This addition is vital given the size of our student population and a service that will undoubtedly help support students going through tough times and in the process of recovery.

In addition, we would like to call for the establishment of a **Sexual Assault Center** at the Augustana Campus. This center will be responsible for the provision of drop-in crisis intervention support to survivors of sexual violence and their supporters. The center would also be responsible for matters related to educating our student population.

The topics that have briefly been touched on in this statement are topics that require collective action to tackle. It is important to make sure that we are putting in place measures that help and not merely checking boxes or doing the bare minimum required. The power to change the situation on the ground lies with us. It is up to us to collectively change this narrative. As students, we strongly believe this is the appropriate first step to take.

Robel Ng'ong'a
President of the Augustana Students' Association

Joel Usiri
Hall Coordinator

Kiara Rasmussen
Hall Coordinator

Naomi Benti
Hall Coordinator