



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Community Counseling Center Receives Grant from Maine Health
Access Foundation**

Grant to Support School-based Health Center Care Coordination Project

PORTLAND, Maine – Community Counseling Center has been awarded a \$ 317,110 grant to fund care coordination at Portland’s school-based health centers. This project will better integrate primary care, behavioral health, and oral health services to high school students in Portland by providing care coordination, culturally accessible case management, enhanced oral health capacity, flexible scheduling for mental health services, and meaningful student involvement and peer advocacy.

Community Counseling Center has collaborated with the Portland Public School and the City of Portland’s Public Health Division since 2005. This partnership has brought comprehensive primary care services, preventative oral healthcare, and behavioral health into the school-based health centers. While this represents a remarkable range of services available on-site to services, it has become increasingly clear that co-location of services is not enough. “This project enhances the collaborative effort to improve the integrative and holistic quality of services delivered and to empower students – both as patients and in the broader public health discourse with their peers – to better understand and identify their own health care needs,” said Leslie Clark Brancato, President & CEO of Community Counseling Center.”

Community Counseling Center is one of Maine's oldest and most comprehensive private, nonprofit family service agencies. With roots dating back to 1874, Community Counseling Center makes positive and lasting changes in the lives of over 6,000 individuals and families each year through prevention, education, treatment and wellness programs. In every program, whether it is a clinical intervention or a wellness service, we believe in the power of the human spirit, the innate strengths of individuals, and we practice in partnership with our clients to enhance resilience, promote recovery and build community. For more information, call (207) 874-1030 or visit www.commcc.org.