

### **Overview and Scope of Service**

The role of COVID-19 Response Coordinator was a position that was carried into the 2022-2023 academic year so that SUNY Fredonia could continue to effectively meet the needs of its students who, due to various circumstances, needed to stay on-campus while isolating with COVID-19. The coordinator, who assumed the position in August 2022, reported to the Interim VP for Student Affairs / Executive Director of Student Wellness and Support and worked collaboratively with the Infection Control Management Team to address student care needs related to COVID prevention and management. In previous years, one of the main responsibilities of this role was to assist with the coordination and execution of pool testing for the campus. However, due to a SUNY policy change, pool testing of the campus at large ceased within the first weeks of the Fall (2022) semester. Accordingly, this aspect of the COVID coordinator role declined in importance. Instead, the coordinator expanded involvement with other campus departments by participating in projects aimed at promoting positive health on the campus. These projects included the coordination of the Monkeypox vaccine clinic hosted in conjunction with the Chautauqua County department of Health, the administration of information about on-campus sexual and mental health resources to students during World Mental Health Day, the development of a presentation on Monkeypox prevention and management to Residence Life staff, and promotion of the Health Center's COVID vaccine booster clinic via the distribution of an infographic about the benefits of the bivalent booster to the campus community.

While some of the auxiliary responsibilities of this position diverged from previous years during the 2022-2023 school year, the chief responsibility of the position – to assist students who needed to isolate with COVID-19 while staying on campus – remained constant. Such students were required to stay in Hendrix Hall for the length of their isolation period, which was reduced to a maximum of five days this year per CDC guidelines. From the time a student received a positive diagnosis of COVID to the time they were allowed to resume regular activities (as dictated by the Health Center) the coordinator served as their liaison to the various campus departments suited to meet their individual needs. The campus departments that the coordinator worked with most regularly, and a brief description of the coordinator's main functions with these departments are as follows:

- Office of Residence Life: The coordinator ensured all levels of Res Life staff were up-to-date concerning the location of their students throughout the isolation process. Outside of regular business hours, the coordinator cooperated with the "on-duty" Residence Director to facilitate students' transition into isolation, both on-campus and off-campus.
- Student Health Center: The coordinator maintained communication with staff to ensure that the medical needs of students were met while in isolation; on occasion this included assisting isolated students with setting up appointments with Health Center staff. The coordinator also elected to assist the Health Center by providing non-emergent medical transportation to local health centers such as Brooks Memorial Hospital and the Chautauqua Center.
- Student Wellness and Support: The coordinator communicated with the Counseling Center about any students for whom the isolation process was particularly mentally taxing.

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- FSA: The coordinator cooperated with various staff members to ensure the timely and accurate delivery of meals to students in isolation. Occasionally, the coordinator arranged for student packages to be delivered from the bookstore.
- University Police: The coordinator was the primary option for the transportation of students from area health centers back to campus. In addition, the coordinator communicated with UP to ensure the general safety of the students already in isolation, as well as those moving into isolation after hours.
- Facility Services: The coordinator worked with facilities staff to ensure that a sanitary environment was maintained in Hendrix Hall. The coordinator also communicated any maintenance issues that arose during a student's stay to the appropriate staff so that it could be addressed in a timely manner.
- Academic Affairs: The coordinator liaised between isolated students and Academic Affairs personnel to ensure that absence from class did not interfere with the students' education.

**Points of Pride**

1) Rapid Assumption of the Position

The coordinator assumed the position almost concurrently with the start of the Fall 2022 semester in late August. Within the first two weeks, a total of 23 students required isolation in Hendrix Hall—a number which was more than three times greater than the amount of students who required isolation in August 2021. In spite of this unprecedented spike, the coordinator was able to rapidly learn and execute the intricacies of the new position. This process included, but was not limited to, familiarizing themselves with the established quarantine procedure from diagnosis through discharge, identifying the appropriate personnel to contact for day-to-day student and administrative needs, and determining the best way to meet the unique mental and physical needs of the current Fredonia student population. The condensed nature of this timeline did not affect the performance of the coordinator, as is reflected in the survey results found on pages 9 and 10 of this report.

2) Effective Expansion of Housing Capabilities

As stated previously, the unprecedented spike of COVID cases at the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester taxed the logistical capabilities of the Hendrix Hall facility. Specifically, the number of students who needed to be isolated at one time very quickly approached and threatened to exceed the available housing capacity of 25 rooms. To address this need, the coordinator was able to work effectively with members of Facilities staff to set up and maintain an additional 25 isolation rooms within Hendrix Hall. The skill with which this process was carried out enabled every student to receive the accommodation they needed, and prevented the ICMT from having to scramble to find and prepare a different facility for isolation.

3) Preservation of a Quality Isolation Experience

The coordinator who held the position during the 2021-2022 academic year made commendable adjustments to the isolation process that improved the experience for students and staff alike. Based on the results of student surveys, the most recent coordinator maintained this elevated level of care, as an overwhelming majority of students reported that their respective stays in Hendrix Hall could be described as “pleasant” or “average.” Staff across various departments also observed throughout the year that, despite some fairly severe spikes in COVID cases, the isolation process as a whole was run quite smoothly. Overall, it is clear that the high standard of care set by the previous coordinator was maintained by the current coordinator, and it is likely that this contributed to a sense of stability and security for students and staff alike.

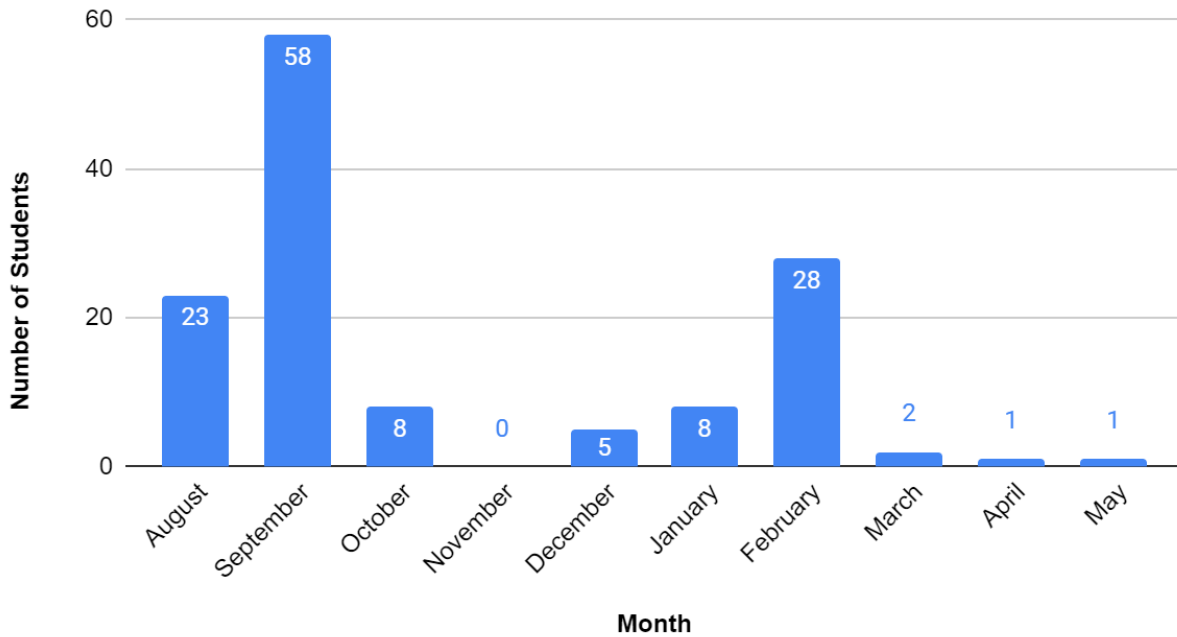
4) Diversification of Proactive Health Initiatives

As stated in the overview section of this report, the coordinator took initiative to diversify their involvement in various projects during times where COVID cases were less numerous. The coordinator cooperated with Health Center staff on a number of public health-related projects. One noteworthy project was a presentation on the prevention and management of Monkeypox, which the coordinator developed and presented to Res Life staff. The presentation was reportedly well received, and went a long way towards preparing the campus for a topical public health concern. The coordinator also helped the Health Center to disseminate information about the resources they offer for sexual health at World Mental Health Day. This project was especially important because students have a lack of awareness of these resources on campus, as they are newly resumed with the pandemic on the decline. In conclusion, the coordinator played an integral role in promoting positive health, which undoubtedly contributed to the wellbeing of the campus in general.

**Relevant Quarantine/Isolation Data**

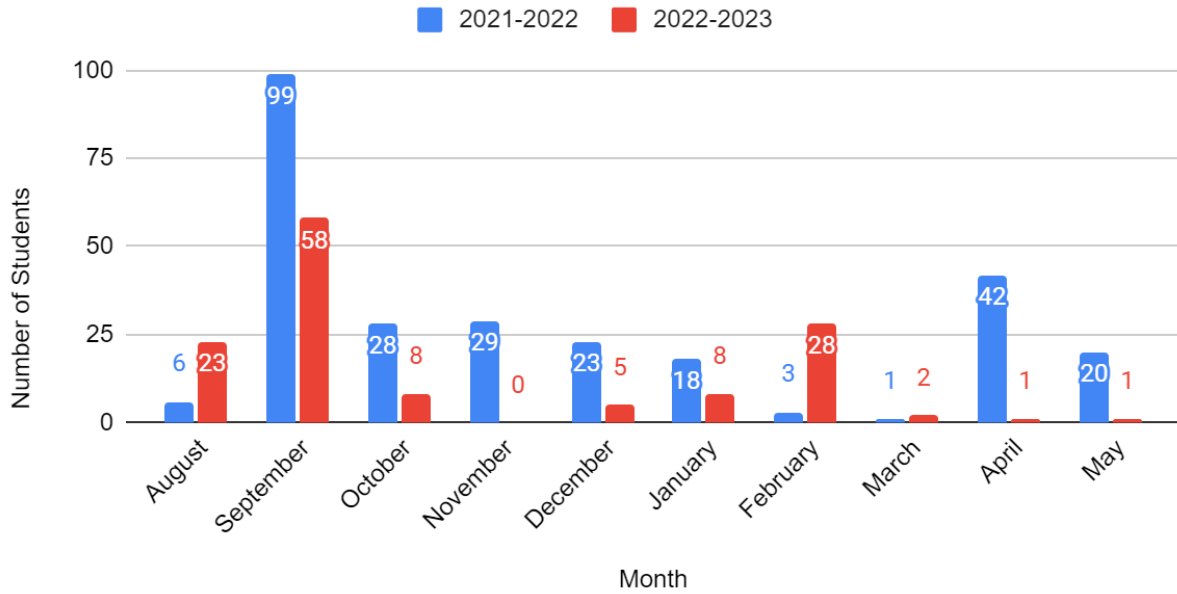
*Note: None of the charts or summaries included below include residents of Fredonia who tested positive for COVID during the Fall or Spring semesters, but chose to isolate off-campus*

**Students Isolated with COVID-19 in Hendrix Hall by Month**



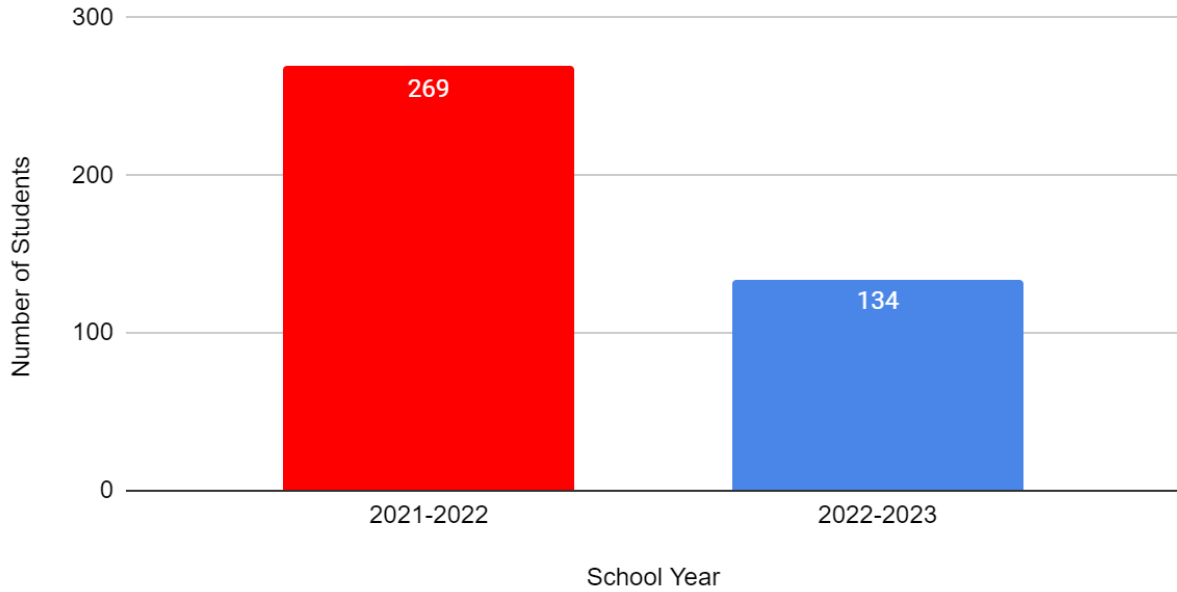
Compared to the number of cases reported in the intervening months, the months corresponding to the beginning of the Fall (2022) and Spring (2023) semesters displayed significant increases in the number of cases reported.

### Students Isolated/Quarantined by Month in 2021-2022 vs. 2022-2023



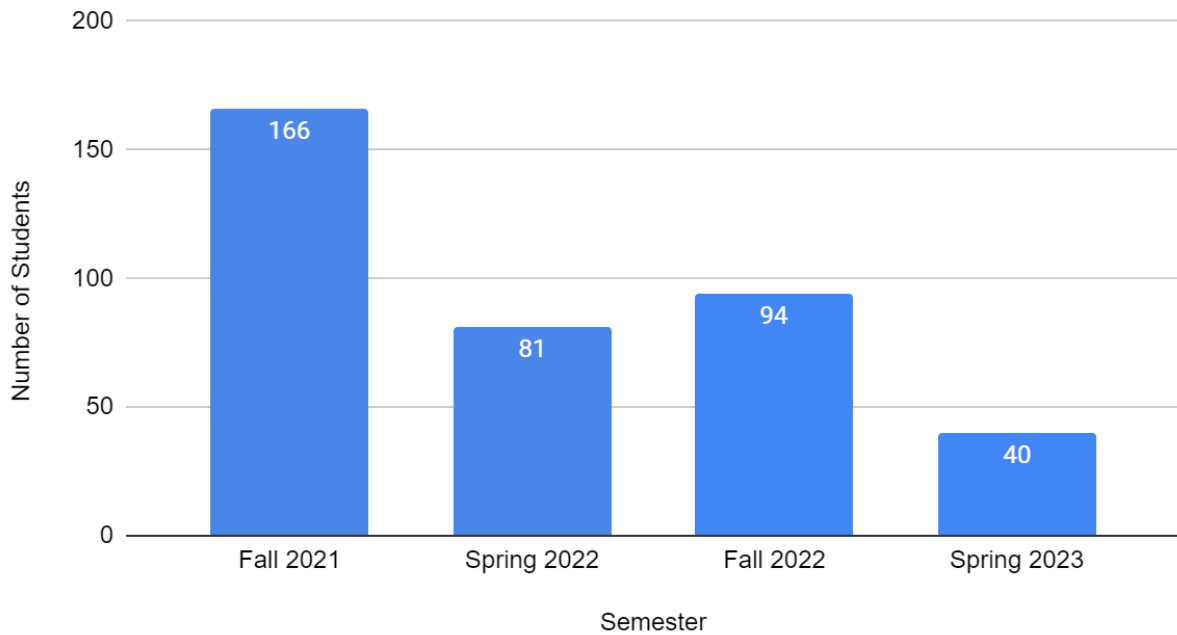
In general, the 2022-2023 school year saw significantly fewer students isolated due to COVID-19 compared to the 2021-2022 school year. However, there were many more cases at the very beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters (August 2022 and February 2023, respectively) than in the previous year. This may be attributable to the specific characteristics of the COVID-19 variant circulating at these times.

### Total Students in Isolation/Quarantine in 2021-2022 vs. 2022-2023



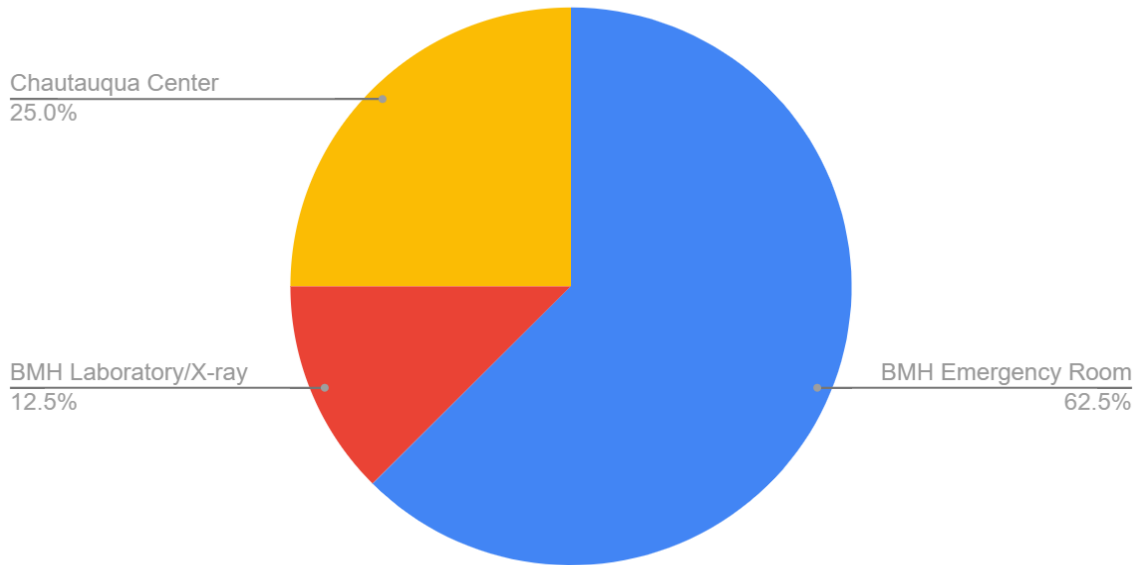
During the 2022-2023 school year, the number of students who required isolation in Hendrix Hall decreased by approximately 50%.

## Students in Isolation/Quarantine By Semester

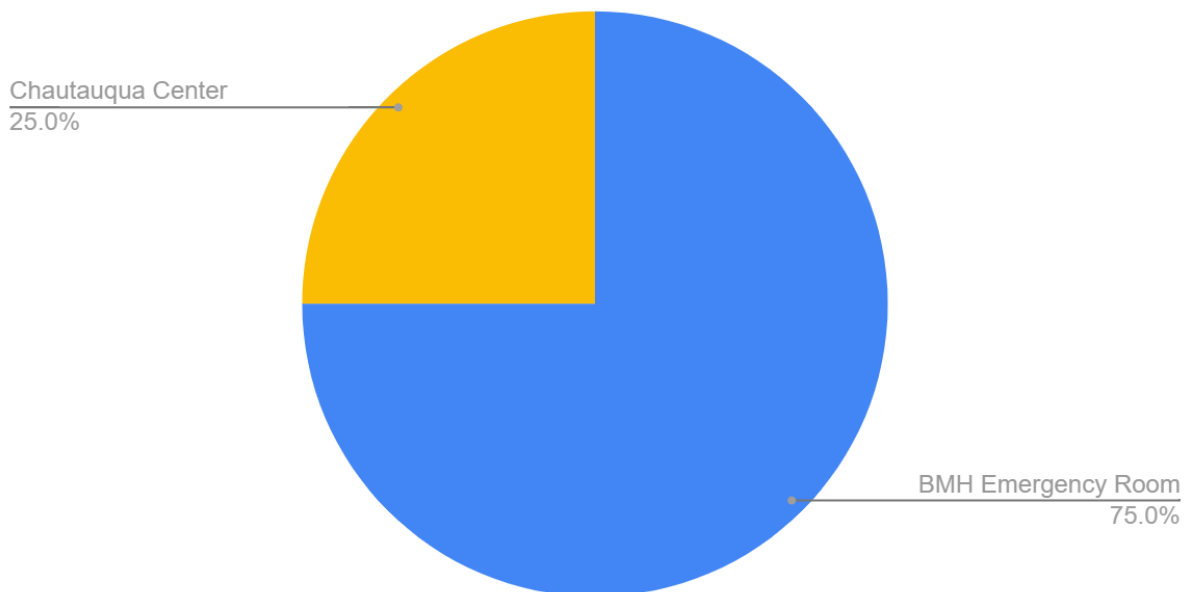


The number of students isolated was lower in both the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters compared to the previous academic year. The number of students requiring isolation was higher in Fall 2022 compared to Spring 2021, however. This could be due to the fact that many new students from different areas come together at the beginning of the Fall semester for the start of the new term.

### Students Transported According to Required Medical Destination in Fall 2022



### Students Transported According to Required Medical Destination in Spring 2023



The Student Health Center required assistance transporting students for non-emergent medical intervention in a total of 8 instances in the Fall 2022 semester and in a total of 12 instances in the Spring 2023 semester. The vast majority of cases for both semesters required transport to the emergency department of Brooks Memorial Hospital.



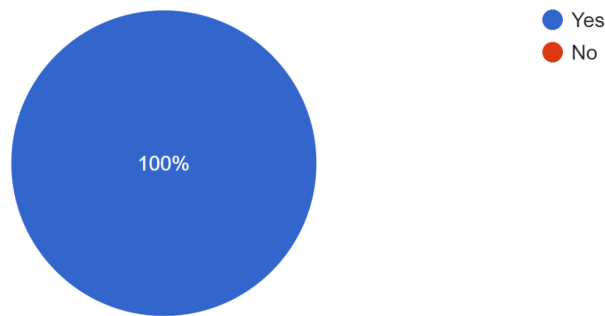
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*\*Note: The above charts do not include data on students who were able to travel to Brooks or other medical centers independently, but required transportation back to campus. For these cases, transportation was arranged via the University Police Department instead of the Student Health Center. It is estimated that the COVID Coordinator transported 17 such students from Fall 2022-Spring 2023.*

**Hendrix Hall Exit Survey Data**

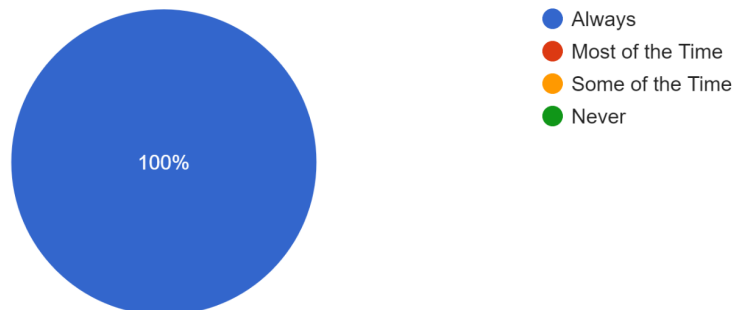
Did you feel comfortable contacting the Covid 19 Coordinator (Caitlyn) with any questions or concerns you had during your stay in Hendrix Hall?

9 responses



Did you feel your questions / concerns were answered by the Covid 19 Coordinator (Caitlyn) in a timely manner while you were in Hendrix Hall?

9 responses



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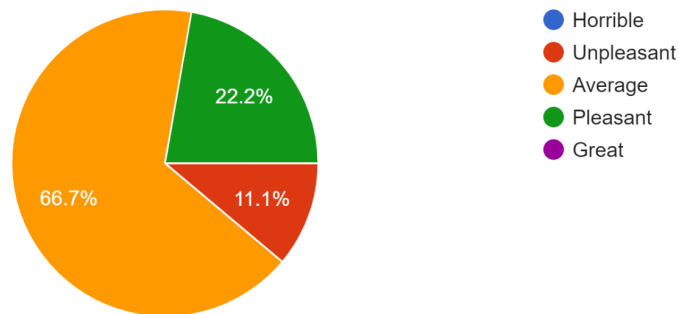
Did you feel you were given adequate contact information to reach out to various departments as needed while staying in Hendrix Hall?

9 responses



Not including the limitations of quarantine or departments outside of Hendrix Hall, how would you rate your overall experience staying in Hendrix Hall?

9 responses



The results gathered from the Hendrix Hall Exit Survey displays that the majority of respondents felt that their overall isolation experience was fairly pleasant, and were comfortable and satisfied with the role that the COVID coordinator played in this experience.

**Summary**

The improvements made to the quarantine/isolation process during the 2021-2022 academic year were maintained by the new COVID coordinator throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, culminating in an overall positive experience for most students who went through the on-campus isolation process. The isolation procedure on the Fredonia campus will look very different in the 2023-2024 academic year, as the campus will be moving into a “shelter in place” model similar to that employed by SUNY Stony Brook this year. This change means that students requiring isolation will be

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staying in their own dorm rooms. Hopefully, in addition to easing the burden on Facilities staff for maintaining a whole building for isolation, this will also ease the burden on the students, as they do not have to deal with the added anxiety of moving out of their regular quarters while ill.

Based on comments from the Hendrix Hall exit survey, students had two chief suggestions for improving the isolation experience: to increase the variety of meal options available for delivery, and to expand the amount of space isolated students had available to them. The first suggestion will be inherently addressed by the change in isolation model, as ill students will now be allowed to pick up their food directly from the dining hall while wearing an appropriate mask. The latter suggestion is more difficult to address, but the stress of being in a constrained space for an extended period of time may be mitigated by designating a specific time and area outside where ill students can take walks. Making these changes may result in an even more positive isolation experience for students.