



BROWN

March 25, 2026

Honorable Louis DePalma
Honorable Marvin Abney
RI Senate & House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: support for Go-Team expansion in H7127- Department of Public Safety Budget

Dear Chairperson DePalma, Chairperson Abney and Committee Members,

On behalf of Brown University, I am writing to express our strong support for the funding expansion request for Family Service of Rhode Island's GO TEAM® in Rhode Island's FY27 Budget for Public Safety (H7127).

In the immediate aftermath of the tragic mass shooting on December 13, 2025, GO TEAM® staff were present at the family reunification center, providing critical, trauma-informed support to students, families, and staff navigating an unthinkable situation. They comforted parents arriving on campus desperate to confirm their children's safety and sat alongside students as they recounted the trauma of what they had witnessed. GO TEAM® staff seamlessly established a compassionate, steady presence by offering support that helped mitigate the immediate impact of profound trauma.

In the days and weeks that followed, GO TEAM®'s commitment to our campus community remained unwavering. FSRI established a drop-in support center for students and community members to access space for care and connection through January as students returned to campus.

Additionally, GO TEAM® coordinated and deployed trauma-trained liaisons across campus from a variety of agencies, to provide ongoing support. These professionals were readily available to students, faculty, and staff; offering immediate assistance, and connecting them to longer-term resources. Their presence significantly strengthened our institutional response and enhanced our ability to support the community in a holistic, trauma-informed manner.

The impact of GO TEAM®'s work cannot be overstated. Their model- integrating behavioral health expertise with real-time crisis response- filled a critical gap at a moment when timely, compassionate intervention was essential

We strongly urge your support for the proposed expansion of GO TEAM®. Our experience demonstrates that GO TEAM® is an indispensable partner in times of crisis, and its continued growth will extend that impact to many more individuals and families across Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Jo Callan".

Mary Jo Callan
Vice President for Community Engagement, Brown University