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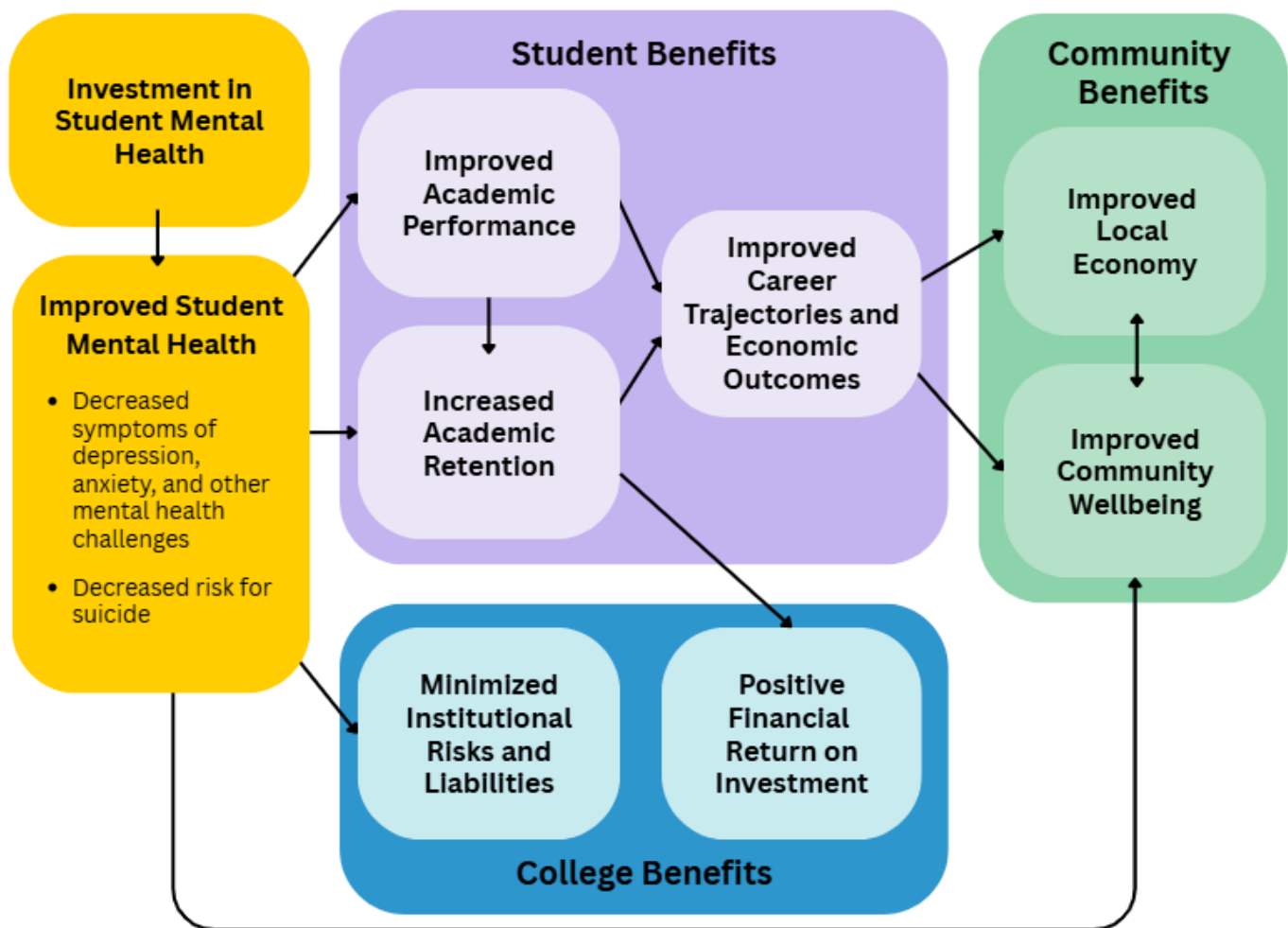
# Supporting Minds, Strengthening Communities: The Case for Investing in Community College Student Mental Health

*Mental Health Improvement through Community Colleges*

MiTRENDS  
Resource  
Highlights

Mental health challenges among community college students are common, yet often go untreated, leading to significant consequences for student persistence, completion, and overall success. As such, **prioritizing student mental health is not only a matter of care, but a strategic investment in institutional outcomes and community well-being.**

The graphic below illustrates the impacts that investing in student mental health has on students, the college, and the broader community, while highlighting the pathways connecting each benefit.



*Note: Aspects of the model above were adapted from “[The Value of A Campus Counseling Center](#)” infographic created by The Healthy Minds Network and collaborators.*



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[mentalhealthcc.org](http://mentalhealthcc.org)

## Key talking points when making the case for investing in student mental health

Building off the benefits outlined in the graphic above, below are evidence based talking points that can be used in making informed, compelling cases for investing in student mental health.



**Investing in our students' mental health will improve students' academic performance.**



**Our college's completion and retention rates will increase as a result of investing in student mental health.**



**By investing in students' mental health, our students are more likely to graduate, earn more over their lifetimes, and succeed in the workforce.**



**Our college will see a positive return on funds invested into supporting student mental health, improving our college's long term financial success.**



**Investing in student mental health saves lives, which will also mitigate legal, financial, and reputational risks to our college.**



**Investing in our students' mental health strengthens our local economy while reducing costly health and workforce inequities in our community.**



**Through the reach our college has across generations of learners, investing in student mental health strengthens long-term health, justice, and social service outcomes community-wide.**

**Learn more: Explore supporting data and identify resources and recommendations for action**

Explore our full resource guide on this topic to dig deeper into these talking points and the key research supporting them. This resource guide, available on [MitRENDS.org](https://www.mitrends.org), provides actionable tools and strategies to support college mental health leaders translating these talking points to action on their campus.