

## River Valley Community College

President Alfred Williams

Alfred Williams has over 25 years of experience in higher education, serving as President of River Valley Community College since 2018. Throughout his career, President Williams has maintained focus on two things: graduating students and sending them back into the community with as little student loan debt as possible. When he arrived at RVCC, his goals for the college were the success of students, working collaboratively as a college, and being open to new ideas. President Williams continues to hold himself and RVCC to those ideals.

At River Valley Community College, President Williams has grown an LPN program which now serves students in seven locations throughout the State of New Hampshire. His commitment to reducing costs has led to facilitating a Rural Health Scholarship in partnership with Dartmouth Health, a free to participants middle school summer boot camp exposing students to the IT field, scholarships to support students with limited family resources, and service as a Board Member on the Foundation for NH Community Colleges. President Williams worked closely with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation on a free course for high school graduates post-COVID, a precursor to the Second Chance Pell Program.

During his tenure, President Williams oversaw a \$1.5 million classroom refurbishment project modernizing labs for A & P, Medical Lab Technician, and Biology. Most recently, he created an Art Gallery at the entrance to the Claremont location to highlight the talents of students, staff, faculty, and local artists. In addition, RVCC, in partnership with New Hampshire Humanities, became the first host of a traveling Smithsonian Exhibit in New Hampshire titled Crossroads: Changes in Rural America.

President Williams believes that community colleges are places where students from all walks of life and experiences can have a chance to create better opportunities for themselves. He is proud of River Valley students whom he describes as focused, determined, and dedicated. In all that he does, President Williams's primary objective is to remove barriers for students on their path towards graduation. Under his guidance RVCC has dedicated resources to deal with food insecurity, mental health, new parents and better access for students with learning differences.

Outside of his role at RVCC, President Williams is an avid supporter of youth sports and spent over ten years coaching Rhode Island Amateur Hockey tournaments alongside his father. More recently, he has coached his children's teams in youth soccer and basketball in his hometown for the Outing Club.

President Williams received a Bachelor of Arts in Government from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and a Juris Doctorate, with honors, from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. President Williams grew up in Johnston, Rhode Island, and attended Johnston High School. In October 2018, he was inducted into the Johnston High School Athletic Hall of Fame for ice hockey. He serves on the New Hampshire Higher Education Commission and serves on the Board of Careers CLiC as Co-Chair. He is also a graduate of Leadership New Hampshire. He resides in New Hampshire with his wife, an elementary school teacher, and his two children.