Jefferson College of Health Sciences gets renewal of grant to address violence against women

A three-year federal grant for $240,750 was recently awarded to Jefferson College of Health Sciences in Roanoke for its work to address violence against women.

The grant will focus on improving the safety of its students and on the larger effort of educating health care workers about responding to violence.

The school, which is owned by Carilion Clinic, first received $235,201 from the U.S. Department of Justice in 2008 to start its Violence Can End, or VOICE, program. The latest grant is a renewal of that initial funding.

Program coordinator Sarah Higginbotham said she wants to continue to focus on training health care workers on how to identify and help victims of violence.

The grant also will be used to look at installing cameras, lighting and emergency phones along South Jefferson Street in Roanoke.

- Sarah Bruyn Jones