

A woman with dark, curly hair is looking out a window. The window shows a view of a building and some greenery under a blue sky with clouds. The woman has a nose ring and is looking upwards and to the right.

**988**

**SUICIDE  
& CRISIS  
LIFELINE**

**Prevention  
Briefing: 988 &  
Wyoming**

**June 22, 2022**  
Andi Summerville  
Executive Director

# Today's briefing

- America's Mental Health Crisis
- The existing Lifeline
- 988 – a transformative moment
- What you can do





**TOO MANY PEOPLE  
ACROSS THE U.S.  
EXPERIENCE  
SUICIDAL, MENTAL  
HEALTH AND/OR  
SUBSTANCE USE  
CRISIS WITHOUT THE  
SUPPORT AND CARE  
THEY NEED**

**In 2020**  
there was approximately  
one death by suicide  
every 11 minutes

**In 2020**  
Wyoming had 182 deaths by  
suicide

**In 2021**  
Wyoming had 189 deaths by  
suicide





**Providing 24/7, free and confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress helps**

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline helps thousands of people overcome crisis situations every day

**Proven to work** – Lifeline studies have shown that after speaking with a trained crisis counselor, most callers are significantly more likely to feel

- less depressed
- less suicidal
- less overwhelmed
- more hopeful

# Wyoming's Crisis Call Centers

988

***National Suicide Prevention Lifeline***  
***1-800-273-TALK (8255)***

**Established Aug 2020**

- **Central Wyoming Counseling Center Lifeline**  
**Casper, WY**
- **Wyoming Lifeline**  
**Greybull, WY**



**July 16, 2022: A transformative moment for the crisis care system in the U.S.**



## **Short-term goal**

A strengthened and expanded Lifeline infrastructure to respond to crisis calls, texts, and chats anytime

## **Long-term vision**

A robust system that provides the crisis care needed anywhere in the country

# 988 Builds Directly on the Existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

# 988

**2001**

Congress appropriates funding for suicide prevention hotline; SAMHSA awards competitive grant to establish a network of local crisis centers

**2007**

SAMHSA and VA partner to establish 1-800-273-TALK as access point for the **Veterans Crisis Line (VCL)**

**2015**

**Disaster Distress Helpline** was incorporated into Lifeline cooperative agreement

**2020**

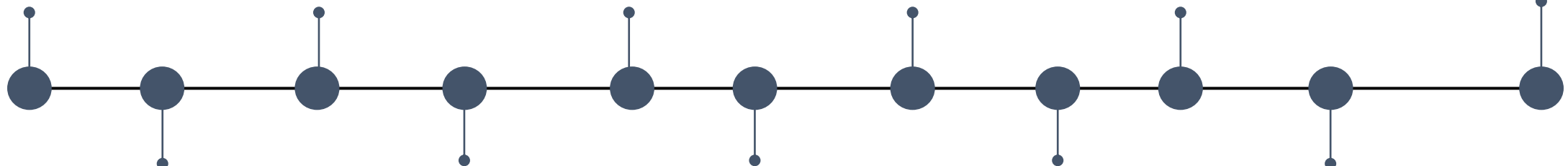
**Lifeline** began incorporating **texting** service capability in select centers

**2021**

SAMHSA/VA/FCC are responsible for submitting multiple **988 reports to Congress**

**2022**

988 transition complete  
**July 16, 2022**



**2005**

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline)** was launched with number 1-800-273-TALK

**2013**

Lifeline began incorporating **chat service** capability in select centers

**2020**

**FCC designates 988** as new three-digit number for suicide prevention and mental health crises

**2020**

**National Hotline Designation Act** signed into law, incorporating 988 as the new Lifeline and VCL number

**2021**

**State 988 funding opportunity** released, and states are responsible for submitting **planning grants to Vibrant**

## In FY21, the Lifeline received roughly **3.6 million contacts**

People who **call the Lifeline** are given three options:

- **Press 1** to connect with the **Veterans Crisis Line**
- **Press 2** to connect with the **Spanish Subnetwork**
- **Remain on the line** and be connected to a **local crisis center**; if local crisis center is unable to answer, the caller is routed to a national backup center

People who **text/chat the Lifeline** are currently connected to crisis centers equipped to respond to texts and chats

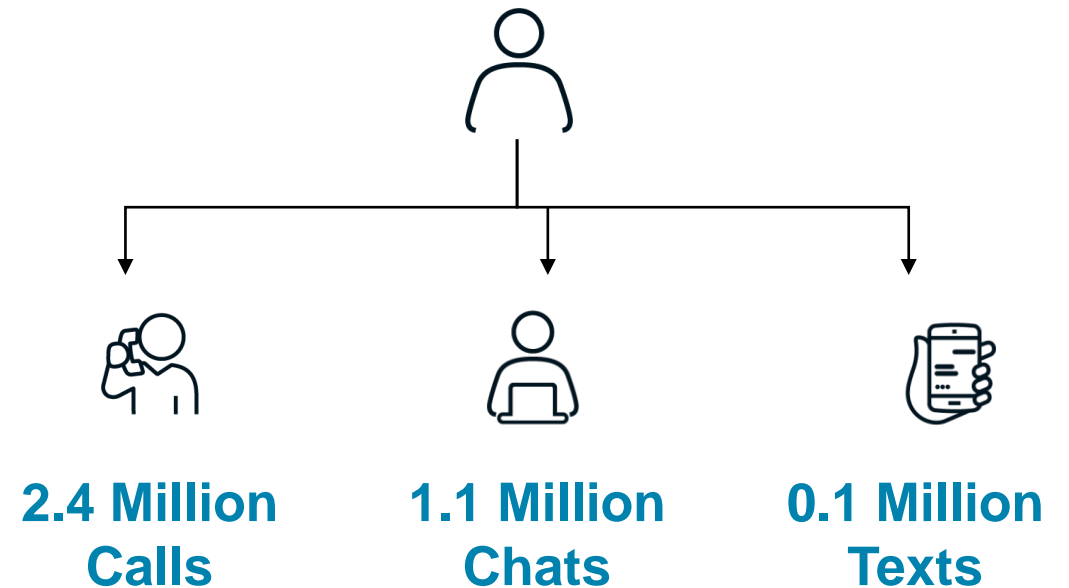
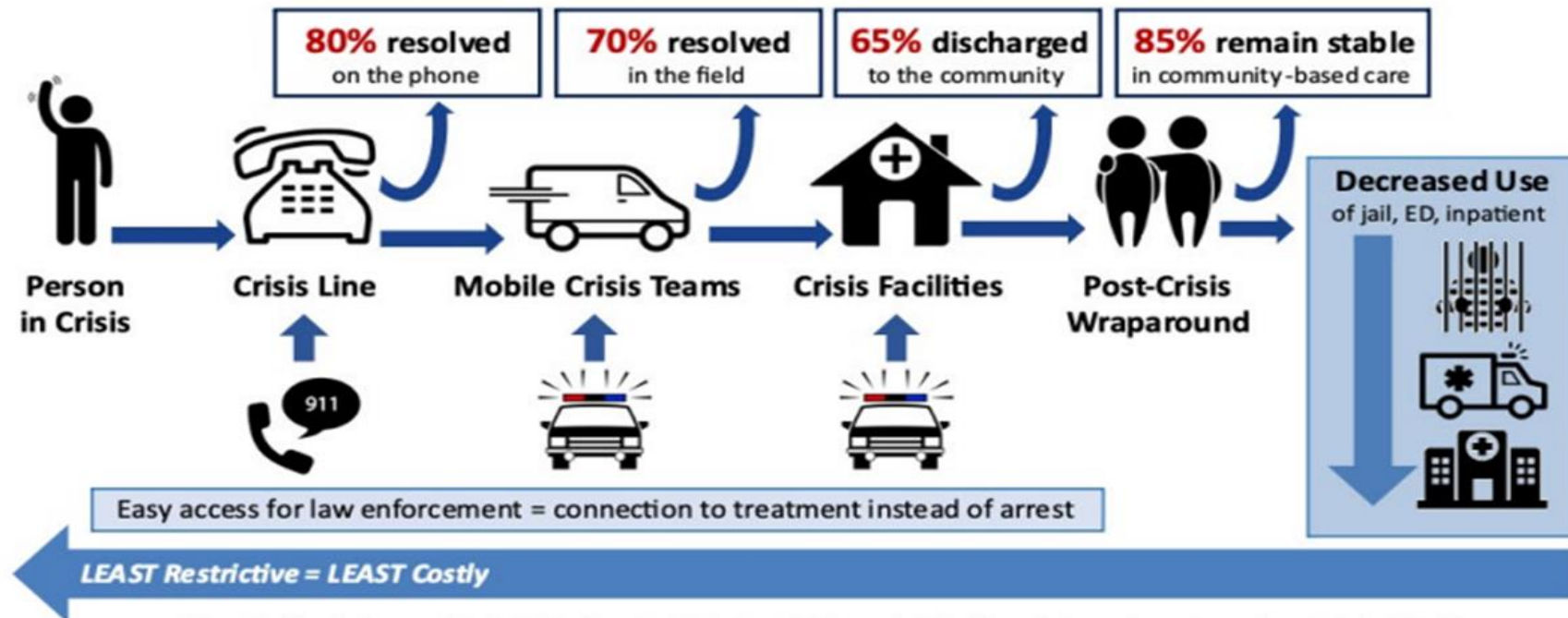




Illustration of an Effective Continuum

## Crisis System: Alignment of services toward a common goal



Balfour ME, Hahn Stephenson A, Winsky J, & Goldman ML (2020). Cops, Clinicians, or Both? Collaborative Approaches to Responding to Behavioral Health Emergencies. Alexandria, VA: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. <https://www.nasmhpd.org/sites/default/files/2020paper11.pdf>

(Balfour, 2020)

# Ongoing Work:

988

## SAMHSA/VIBRANT/FCC:

- **Geolocation/Infrastructure**
- **Education Campaign**
- **988 Text**
- **Funding opportunities**

## Wyoming:

- Continue build out of crisis services
  - Mobile Crisis
  - Community Mental Health Crisis Stabilization
  - Hospital Resources
  - Collaboration with 911/law enforcement
- Infrastructure
  - Determine infrastructure needs for geolocation
- Funding
  - 988 Fee on Telephone Bills?
  - Future grant opportunities?
  - Certified CCBHCs/Medicaid?
  - Philanthropy?
  - State of Wyoming General Fund?

# Some Resources that Support 988 and Crisis Services

988

## SAMHSA:

- 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreement (12/22)
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant – 5% Crisis Services set-aside
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) grant
- Zero Suicide Grant
- Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention (GLS) Grant
- Rural Emergency Medical Services Grant
- State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant & Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) Grant
- Tribal Behavioral Health Grant (Native Connections)
- State Transformational Technology Initiative Grants (TTI-NASMHPD)
- Governors Challenges to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families

## CMS:

- Medicaid/CHIP Waivers – 1915 and 1115
- Medicaid/CHIP State Plan Amendments
- CMS State Planning Grants for Qualifying Community-Based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (\$15M for 20 states)

## SAMHSA Technical Assistance:

- Suicide Prevention Resource Center
- Center of Excellence for Integrated Health Solutions
- National and Regional Mental Health Technology Transfer Centers
- GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation
- National Child Traumatic Stress Network

## JUNE

Wallet cards  
(to order from SAMHSA store)

Magnets  
(to order from SAMHSA store)

## JULY

Animated and static social media/digital shareables on basics of 988

Continued material updates in SAMHSA store



### 988 Partner Toolkit

Moving to an easy-to-remember 3-digit code will provide greater access to life-saving services.

- [Key Messages](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [988 Factsheet \(PDF | 860 KB\)](#) (available in [Spanish PDF | 390 KB](#))



## DRIVE A COMMON 988 NARRATIVE

- Use 988 Messaging Framework
- Use 988 Key Messages & FAQs
- Use and Share 988 Toolkit Resources

## SHARE OUR RESOURCES

- Download 988 fact sheets

## Support Statewide and Local Education/Conversations

- Education initiative in Fall 2022
- Continue local community work to strengthen suicide prevention and mental health care resources
- Funding conversations with Elected Officials



# Thank you!



And you can email questions to us at

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[988Team@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:988Team@samhsa.hhs.gov)