988 is COMING!
Launching July 2022

In July 2022, 988 will become the national three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, replacing the current phone number of 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

The switch to the easy-to-remember 3-digit calling code 988 (like ‘911’) for suicide prevention and mental health crisis services will make it easier for Americans in crisis to access the help they need and decrease the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health issues.

Moving to 988 is an opportunity to strengthen and expand the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (the Lifeline) to assist individuals in a behavioral health crisis. Nebraska’s 988 Implementation plan is located: [https://dhhs.ne.gov/pages.988.aspx](https://dhhs.ne.gov/pages.988.aspx)

Stakeholders and work groups have been meeting regularly to advance Nebraska’s 988 implementation efforts in meeting a July launch date. A brief description of each group follows. Expanded meeting information for each group can be found at: [https://dhhs.ne.gov/pages.988.aspx](https://dhhs.ne.gov/pages.988.aspx)

- **Stakeholder Advisory Workgroup**: Advises 988 and crisis continuum implementation efforts to ensure equitable access to behavioral health crisis care for all Nebraskans
- **Technology**: Developing recommendations and solutions for Nebraska 988 to ensure compatibility with Nebraska 911.
- **Data and Performance**: Developing recommendations regarding quality metrics to ensure adherence to Lifeline Service Level Standards and Stakeholder expectations.
- **Referral Repository**: Makes recommendations for completion and maintenance of Nebraska referral repository for use by Nebraska’s 988 call center.
- **Training and Education**: Developing standardized training and education for crisis continuum service providers.
- **Marketing**: Developing a messaging strategy and updating/creating materials addressing health disparities and reaching diverse populations.

If you have questions or comments, please submit to: DHHS.BehavioralHealthDivision@nebraska.gov

Until the launch……If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, CALL 1-800-273-8255 or text HOME to 741741

“Helping People Live Better Lives”