

# 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline



## Questions and answers about 988 in Indiana

On July 16, 2022,  
**988**  
will go live  
as a new national  
three-digit dialing code  
for reaching the  
**National Suicide  
Prevention Lifeline.**

The current long-form  
phone number of  
800-273-TALK  
will also continue  
to be an option.

For more information,  
visit

<https://988lifeline.org/>

### Is 988 available for substance use crises?

The Lifeline accepts contacts from anyone who needs support for a suicidal, mental health and/or substance use crisis.

### When will 988 go live?

The 988 dialing code will be available nationwide for call (multiple languages), text or chat (English only) on July 16, 2022. Until then, those experiencing a mental health-related or suicidal crisis, or those looking to help a loved one through a crisis, should continue to call the Lifeline at its current number, 800-273-8255.

### What will happen to the Be Well Crisis Helpline?

The Be Well Crisis Helpline remains available for Hoosiers in need of speaking with a trained crisis specialist. This service is available by dialing 2-1-1.

### Will 988 replace the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline?

Moving to 988 will not replace the Lifeline, rather it will be an easier way for Hoosiers to access a strengthened and expanded network of crisis call centers.

### Who will answer the calls when someone calls 988?

The state of Indiana will partner with up to five providers, including the three current National Suicide Prevention Lifeline call centers in the state, to answer contacts to 988.

### How is 988 different than 911?

Like 911, there will need to be a system of entities working in lockstep to establish, support and grow 988 in a way that meets our nation's growing suicide prevention and mental health crisis care needs. We will work to ensure Hoosiers understand that they can call 9-1-1 for police, fire and medical emergencies and 9-8-8 for thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. If you are not sure, call 9-1-1.

### How will 988 be funded?

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration is using various federal funding sources, including American Rescue Plan Act dollars, to help stand up the system.