



## 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE FACT SHEET for MISSOURI

### WHO

- [Provident Behavioral Health](#)  
*Answering local, state, and national calls; one of six Missouri call centers. Provident has been providing life-saving crisis work since 1966.*
- [Vibrant Emotional Health](#)  
*Administers programs and supports call centers*
- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA)  
*Provides funding for national lifelines*
- [Missouri Department of Mental Health](#)  
*Provides funding for state lifelines and oversees Missouri's network of call centers*

### WHAT

- Launching the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: This nation-wide dialing code is an easy-to-remember number that connects people with immediate crisis services.

### PURPOSE OF THE 988 LIFELINE

- Connect a person in a mental health crisis to a trained Crisis Intervention Specialist who can address their immediate needs and help link them to ongoing care.
- Reduce healthcare spending with more cost-effective early intervention.
- Reduce use of law enforcement, public health, and other safety resources.
- Meet the growing need for crisis intervention at scale.
- Help end stigma toward those seeking or accessing mental healthcare.

### WHEN

- Official launch is July 16, 2022.
- Ongoing service will be available 24/7, every day.

### WHY

#### *Missouri Statistics*

- 30% of Missourians show indication of anxiety or depression based on reported frequency of symptoms, the 9<sup>th</sup> highest rate in the US. ([CDC](#))
- SAMHSA's State of Mental Health in America report ranked Missouri 36<sup>th</sup> for positive mental health indicators. ([SAMHSA](#))
- 1,871,902 people in Missouri live in a community that does not have enough mental health professionals. ([NAMI](#))
- 56% of Missourians age 12-17 who have depression did not receive any care in the last year. ([NAMI](#))
- Missouri Department of Mental Health Student Survey: Grades 6-12 shows slight fluctuations in indicators for mental illness for young people between 2020-2022. ([MDMH](#))

- Around 26% of Missourians have taken prescription medication for mental health issues over the last six months, the 21<sup>st</sup> highest ranking state for this intervention. ([CDC](#))

## **WHY**

### *National Statistics*

- The suicide rate has climbed nearly 30% since 1999, and the rate has increased in 49 out of 50 states over the last decade.
- There was a 10% increase in suicides of young people between 15-24 years old in the US from 2016-2017.
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people, and the tenth leading cause of death in the US.
- More Americans died from mental health crises and substance abuse in 2018 alone than have died in combat in every war combined since World War II.

## **HOW DOES IT WORK**

- Anyone can call the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. It is free and accessible to all.
- When a caller reaches out, they are routed to their local crisis center. If the local center is unable to pick up, the call is routed to the state backup crisis center. If the state backup crisis center is unable to pick up, the call is routed to the national backup network.
- A trained Crisis Intervention Specialist answers the call. They listen to understand what the caller is experiencing, provide immediate support, and collaborate with the caller to feel better and connect with resources for ongoing care.
- Crisis intervention specialists provide ongoing follow up support for callers who have expressed having thoughts of suicide.

## **OUTCOMES**

- Suicide is most often preventable. For every person who dies by suicide annually, there are 316 people who seriously consider suicide but do not end their own lives.
- Over 90% of people who attempt suicide go on to live out their lives.

## **TOOLKIT**

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