

NOTICE: Upcoming Launch of 988 To Support Suicide Prevention Efforts

July 11, 2022

Dear provider,

988 has been designated as the new three-digit telephone dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL). This dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network based on the area code of the incoming phone number. These trained counselors will listen, provide support, and connect people to resources, as needed.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

Services through the NSPL are free and available 24/7 to any individual. For more information on the NSPL and the coming change, visit <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/current-events/the-lifeline-and-988/>.

Changes to the NSPL do not impact the Arizona crisis system, which is administered through Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs). Regional crisis hotlines remain in place, and we encourage you all to use these as your first resource. Services through the regional crisis hotlines are free and available 24/7 to any individual, regardless of their insurance or eligibility.

For any questions about the 988 transition or northern Arizona crisis services, please reach out to Brianna Barrios – Brianna.Barrios@azblue.com.

Key Crisis Hotline Resources:

- **Northern Arizona Crisis Hotline (Apache, Coconino, Gila, Mohave, Navajo, Yavapai Counties):** 1-877-756-4090
- **Maricopa County Crisis Hotline:** 1-800-631-1314 or 602-222-9444
- **Southern Arizona Crisis Hotline (Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, and Yuma Counties):** 1-866-495-6735
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 1-800-273-8255 and 988 (beginning 7/16/2022)

To view this notice for embedded links and content specific to education-related material, please visit us online at www.HealthChoiceAZ.com under our “Providers” tab.



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