

Steve Sisolak  
Governor



Richard Whitley  
Director

# State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

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Nevada's Crisis Response System

Bureau of Behavioral Health & Wellness

Kendall Holcomb



*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



# Nevada's Vision and Mission for Crisis Response

## Vision

**The Crisis Response System and 988 will serve as the foundation of Nevada's behavioral health safety net. We will reduce behavioral health crises, strive to attain zero suicides in our state, and provide a pathway to recovery and well-being.**

## Mission

**Everyone in Nevada will have immediate access to effective and culturally informed behavioral health services, crisis services, and suicide prevention through 988 and the Crisis Response System.**





# Nevada's Guiding Principles

Implementation of the Crisis Response System will be guided by these best practices

## UNIVERSAL & CONVENIENT ACCESS

- Public awareness and engagement
- Resources for self-help
- Multi-channel availability
- Reliable and timely response

## HIGH QUALITY & PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCE

- Localized response based on geographic area
- Connection to local public health and safety services
- Follow-up as needed

## CONNECTION TO RESOURCES & FOLLOW-UP

- Tailored support based on the age, culture, language, and other characteristics of each person
- Consistency in line with best practices



# Coordinated Crisis Continuum – National Guidelines



Crisis Center (someone to talk to- **988**)



Crisis Mobile Team Response (someone to respond)



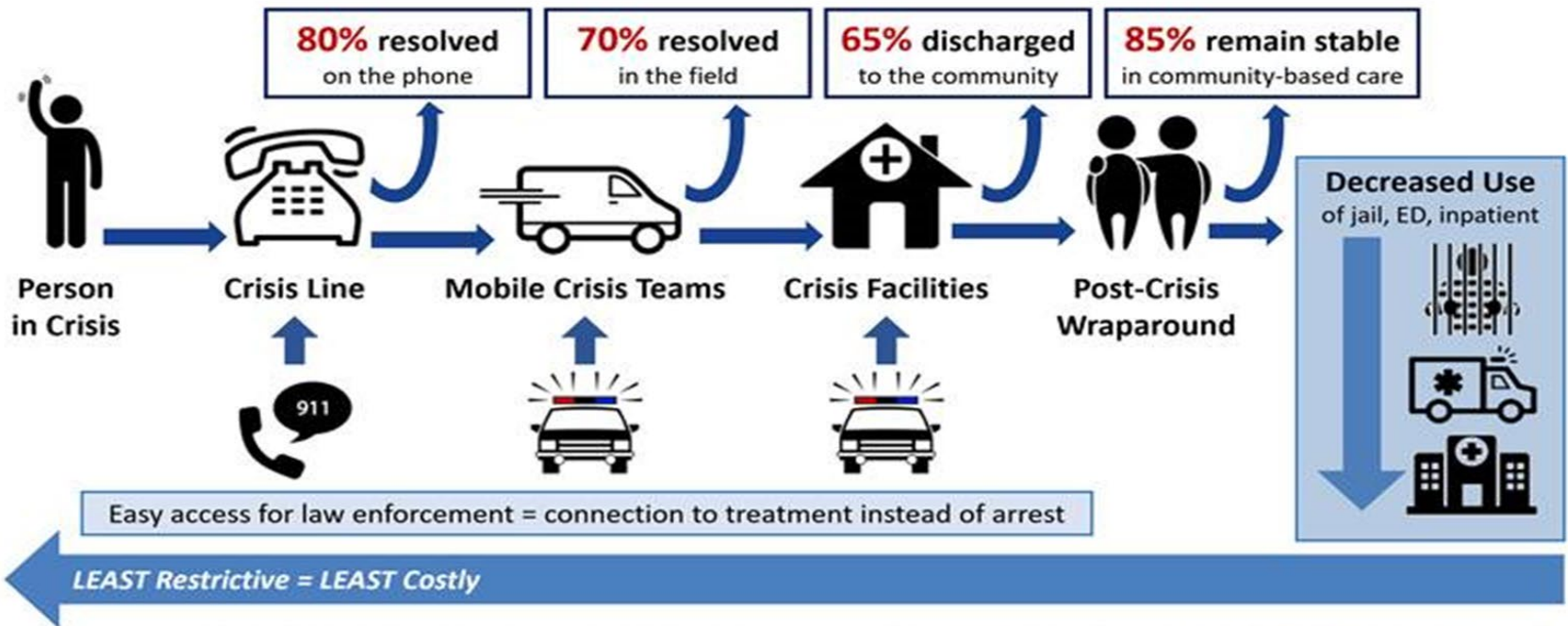
Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Services (a safe place for help)



Essential Crisis Principles and Practices (best practices)

# 988 is the Foundation for Crisis Care

Crisis System: Alignment of services toward a common goal



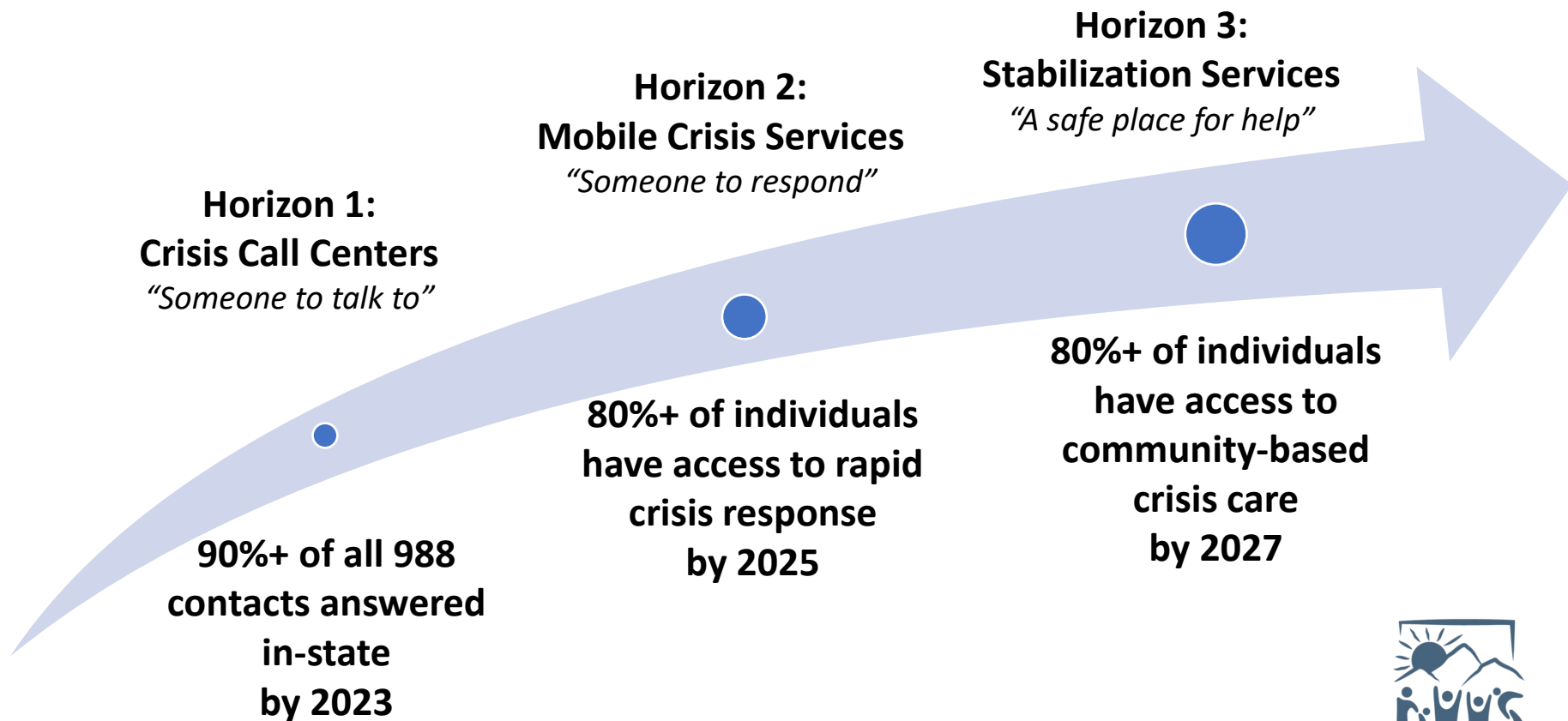
Balfour ME, Hahn Stephenson A, Winsky J, & Goldman ML (2020). *Cops, Clinicians, or Both? Collaborative Approaches to Responding to Behavioral Health Emergencies*. Alexandria, VA: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. <https://www.nasmhpd.org/sites/default/files/2020paper11.pdf>



# Crisis Response Partnerships

- Approximately 10-15% of 911 calls nationally are estimated to be crisis or mental health related
- 988 is not intended to serve as a public safety resource, rather to divert non-medical, fire, police, emergency calls that are suicide or mental health related out of the 911 system and to behavioral health professionals

# SAMSHA's Five-Year Vision: 988 and a Fully Resourced Crisis Care System





# SOMETHING GREAT IS HERE!

Active starting July 16<sup>th</sup> 2022

**CALL 911**

**If you need fire,  
police, or an  
ambulance**



**Call 988**

**if experiencing a  
behavioral health  
crisis or suicidality**





# Rationale for 988

- Since 1999 rates of suicide have increased by 30% nationwide, though NV is one of the few states that has seen a decrease or held steady
- 1 in 5 people over the age of 12 have a mental health condition, both nationwide and in Nevada
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people, and the ninth leading cause of death in the Silver State
- Suicide is most often preventable. For every person who dies by suicide, there are 280 people who seriously consider suicide but do not kill themselves.



# Rationale for 988

- A direct three-digit line to trained counselors will open the door for millions of Americans to seek the help they need
- An easy to remember and dial number will make it easier to reach people in emotional crisis

***When you've got a police, fire or rescue emergency, you call 911.***

***When you have a mental health need, you'll call 988.***





# 988 Implementation in NV: SB390

- Legislation to establish 988 passed the Nevada Legislature on May 31, 2021, and was signed by the Governor on June 4, 2021
- SB390 includes a funding mechanism to support 988 through a surcharge on phone lines

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/8095/Overview>





# Resources

- CRS shares updates, resources, and other information about implementation of the Crisis Response System monthly.
- To be added to this email list, please email Kendall Holcomb at [kholcomb@health.nv.gov](mailto:kholcomb@health.nv.gov).



# Questions?





# Contact Information

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