

NATIONAL COUNCIL for Mental Wellbeing





Fulfilling the Promise of 988:

FY2022 Appropriations Requests to Support the Crisis Care Continuum

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)

(Dollars in millions)

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG)

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request		
	\$757.571	\$833.328 (+\$75.757 vs FY21)		

The additional \$75.8 million would fund a MHBG ten percent set-aside to fund state implementation of crisis services that are especially crucial to addressing the expected significant uptick in call volume and crisis outreach as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline transitions to the 988 dialing code next year. While the set-aside would not fully fund the Crisis Now model in every state, it would aid in bolstering a comprehensive system that includes mobile crisis teams and crisis stabilization facilities providing short-term (under 24 hours) observation and stabilization in a home-like, non-hospital environment.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request
\$24.0	\$240.0 (+\$216.0 vs FY21)

When the easily accessible 988 crisis hotline number, coupled with promotional and public education campaigns, is nationally available July 2022 usage of the Lifeline is anticipated to substantially increase and additional capacity and infrastructure updates are needed. It was expected that SAMHSA and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) would release final cost estimate reports to Congress regarding Lifeline funding needs by April 2021. In lieu of those reports, Vibrant Emotional Health – the current administrator of the Lifeline – conducted an initial analysis for needs in FY2022. The mental health and suicide prevention community stands ready to work with appropriators upon the release of those reports to ensure adequate funding for this critical resource.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Expansion Grants

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request
\$250.0	\$300.0 (+\$50.0 vs FY21)

Since launching in 2017, CCBHCs have dramatically improved access to a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services to vulnerable individuals. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, CCBHCs have been on the front lines ensuring millions of Americans continue to receive medically necessary mental health and SUD services while also monitoring for COVID-19. CCHBCs are a successful, integrated, and modern way of delivering 21^{st} century mental health care to patients with substance use disorder. The FY2022 allocation will allow for both the continued reach of the grant program while allowing previous grantees to reapply and continue their successful work in communities across the country.

SAMHSA Center on 988 Implementation

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request
	\$5.0 (+\$5.0 vs FY21)

The requested inclusion of \$5 million for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental and Substance Use to would fund coordination of a crisis care system encompassing nationwide standards and data analysis to expand the capacity of and access to local crisis call centers, mobile crisis care, crisis stabilization, and psychiatric emergency services provided by the National Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Response System, the Mental Health Block Grant crisis care set-aside program, Community Mental Health Centers, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics and other community mental health and substance use disorder providers.



Funding for Lifeline Call Centers

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request
	\$441.0 (+\$441.0 vs FY21)

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network needs significant investment to build the needed capacity to respond to individuals in a suicidal or mental health crisis. Local crisis centers provide tools that build resiliency and connects to local resources to keep individuals safe and communities strong. Federal funding would ensure that individuals in crisis receive timely, tailored support rooted in best practices that is connected to their local resources irrespective of a state's ability to support local crisis centers. This funding would support local crisis centers building much needed capacity to answer 988 contacts, provide additional training opportunities for staff, allow for debrief time following calls, and meet the needs of individuals in crisis.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)

(Dollars in millions)

Crisis Stabilization and Community Reentry Grant Program

FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request
	\$10.0 (+\$10.0 vs FY21)

From 2006 to 2016, suicide was the leading single cause of death in local jails. In response to these statistics and the ongoing mental health and suicide crises among justice-involved individuals, Congress passed the Crisis Stabilization and Community Reentry Act of 2020. The program allows community-based mental health and substance use providers to partner with jails and prisons to provide treatment and crisis stabilization for incarcerated people – using warm hand-offs to community-based care upon re-entry. The program would fund integral working relationships between crisis responders as 988 rolls out nationwide, highlighting community-level crisis response programs, suicide prevention and medication adherence training programs.

ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

The National Council for Mental Wellbeing is a membership organization that drives policy and social change on behalf of nearly 3,500 mental health and substance use treatment organizations and the more than 10 million children, adults, and families they serve. We advocate for policies to ensure equitable access to high-quality services. We build the capacity of mental health and substance use treatment organizations. And we promote greater understanding of mental wellbeing as a core component of comprehensive health and health care. Through our Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) program, we have trained more than 2.5 million people in the U.S. to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Michael Petruzzelli, Director of Federal Policy and Advocacy at michaelp@thenationalcouncil.org.

For 50 years, Vibrant Emotional Health has been at the forefront of promoting emotional well-being for all people. As leaders, advocates, educators, and innovators in mental health, we have been raising awareness and offering support to everyone who is struggling. We work every single day to help save lives and assist people to get care anytime, anywhere and in any way that works for them. We are unwavering in our belief that everyone can achieve emotional wellness with the right care and support. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Laura Evans, Program Manager of National and State Policy at levans@vibrant.org.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. AFSP creates a culture that is smart about mental health through education and community programs, develops suicide prevention through research and advocacy, and provides support for those affected by suicide. Led by CEO Robert Gebbia and headquartered in New York, and with a public policy office in Washington, D.C., AFSP has local chapters in all 50 states with programs and events nationwide. Learn more about AFSP in its latest Annual Report, and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following AFSP on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Natalie Tietjen, Manager of Federal Policy at NTietjen@afsp.org.