



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Prevention and Community Health
Post Office Box 47830
Olympia, Washington 98504-7830
711 Washington Relay Service

August 17, 2023

SUBJECT: Standards for Designation of 988 Contact Hubs

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders and Tribal Partners -

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and [DOH Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), we are inviting collaboration, in follow-up to our letter sent out in April 2023, for drafting the rules for designating 988 crisis centers. A part of the implementation activities for [HB 1477 Implementing the national 988 system to enhance and expand behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention services](#).

We will be hosting virtual workshops for our tribal partners to provide input on the draft rules crafted in part from listening sessions feedback earlier this year, including best practices across the nation. The rules will establish standards for the designation of crisis centers as "988 Contact Hubs" intended to improve the quality and consistency of care available for those who contact the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline for support.

Tuesday September 26th 2:00 – 4:00

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86862331714?pwd=WWcxdmR4cS9hSXR2MW1SMzdrVk9Cdz09>

Thursday September 28th 9:00 – 11:00

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83467926451?pwd=ekVwSkdoSS9nRUQxQVRBUUd2aldHZz09>

We appreciate your continued support and collaboration. Please direct your written comments or requests for additional information to Lead Policy Advisor Me'Kyel Bailey at mekyel.bailey@doh.wa.gov or 360-764-9161. For tribal related matters, please contact Tribal Policy Director Candice Wilson at candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov or 360-819-7626.

Sincerely,

Michele Roberts, MPH, MCHES
Assistant Secretary - Division of Prevention and Community Health (PCH)

Cc: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH - Secretary of Health - Department of Health
Candice Wilson Quatz'tenaut (Lummi) - Tribal Policy Director - Department of Health
Kristopher Holiday - Chief of Strategic Partnerships - Department of Health
Elizabeth Perez - Chief of Public Affairs and Equity - Department of Health
Kristin Peterson - Chief of Policy, Planning and Evaluation - Department of Health
Jessica Todorovich - Chief of Staff - Department of Health
Lacy Fehrenbach - Chief of Prevention, Safety and Health - Department of Health
Colleen Thompson - PCH Policy and Legislative Relations Director - Department of Health
Me'Kyel Bailey - PCH Lead Policy Advisor - Department of Health