



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY  
PO Box 47890 | Olympia, Washington 98504-7890  
360-236-4030 | 711 Washington State Relay STATE OF WASHINGTON

March 31, 2026

**Re: Informative – Update on 988 Crisis Care Continuum Project Shelving Status**

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders, Partners, and Professionals:

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#) and the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), regarding collaboration with Indian Tribes in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affect Indian Tribes and the [Tribal Consultation and Communication Policy](#) of the Health Care Authority (HCA) and the Washington State Department of Health (WA-DOH) [Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), we are providing a follow up to the November 10, 2025 [DTLL “Update on 988 Crisis Care Continuum Project Status,”](#) regarding the future of the 988 Crisis Care Continuum technology platform.

The final legislative budget did not allocate funding for the 988-technology platform, so the project will not move forward at this time. We understand this is difficult news; however, the important program work supporting the broader 988 and crisis care continuum work will continue. Our technical staff will preserve current project materials, including feedback from the Tribal Centric Behavioral Health Advisory Board and Tribal 988 Subcommittee, so that we can resume the work when the budget allows.

We sincerely appreciate the time, expertise, and input you have shared throughout this work. Your partnership has strengthened the foundation of Washington’s crisis system. While the technology work is pausing, our collaboration to advance crisis care for Tribes communities across the state as part of 988 continues.

For questions about the 988 CCC project, please contact Lonnie Peterson, 988 Crisis Systems Manager, at [lonnie.peterson@doh.wa.gov](mailto:lonnie.peterson@doh.wa.gov), or Kara Panek, Behavioral Health Strategic Advisor at [kara.panek2@hca.wa.gov](mailto:kara.panek2@hca.wa.gov).

If you have any tribal affairs-related questions please contact Aren Sparck, HCA Tribal Affairs Administrator, at [aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov](mailto:aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov), or Candice Wilson, Executive Director, DOH Office of Tribal Public Health and Relations (OTPHR), at [candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov](mailto:candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov).

Respectfully,

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