



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

988: A Shared Opportunity for Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Partners

A National View

April 6, 2023 | Hallie Fader-Towe, CSG Justice Center

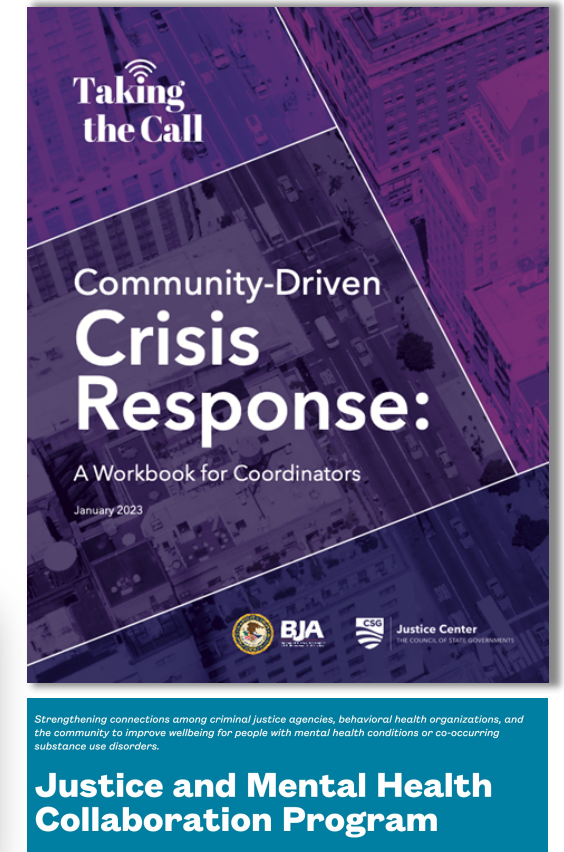
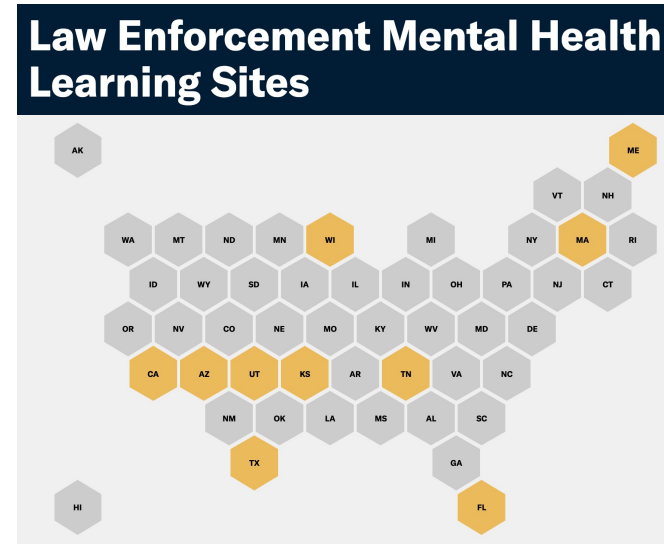
The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) promotes innovative cross-system collaboration and provides grants directly to states, local governments, and federally recognized Indian Tribes. It is designed to improve responses to people with mental health conditions and substance use disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system.

The CSG Justice Center's Crisis Work under JMHCP

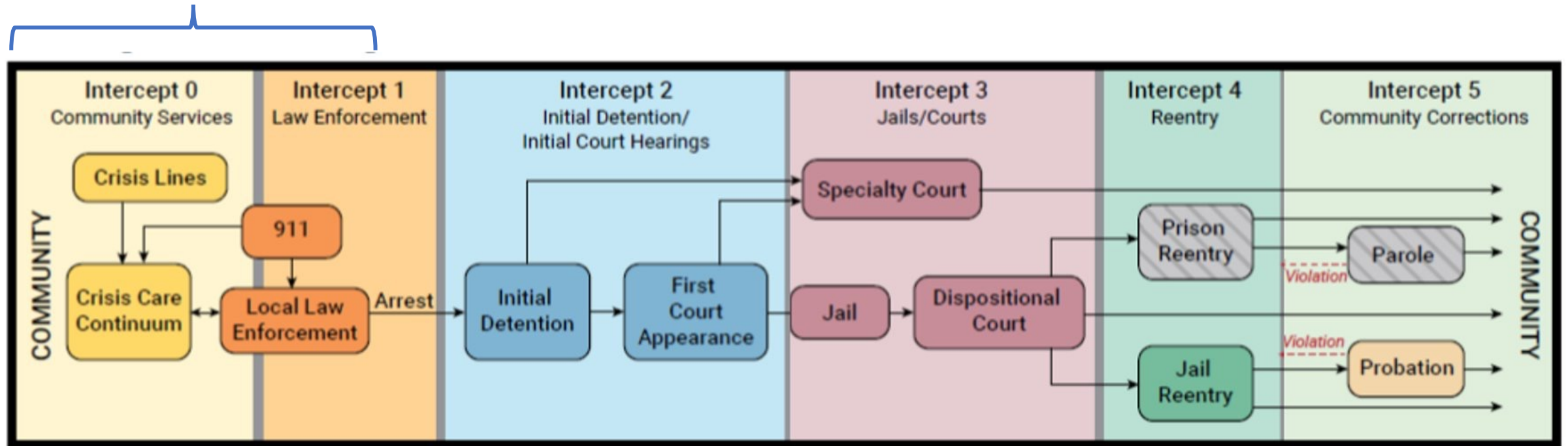


STEPPINGUP

The Crisis Continuum

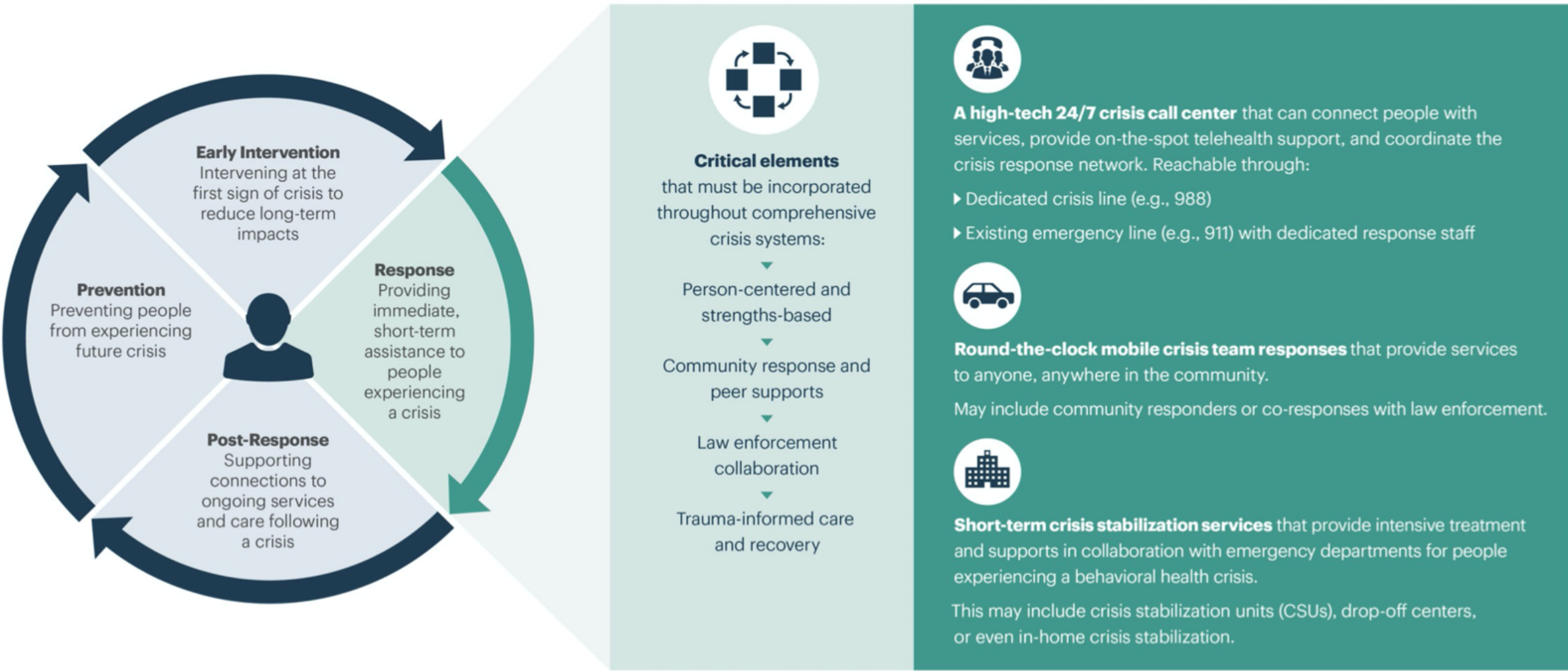
Sequential Intercept Model

Today's Focus



Policy Research Associates, *The Sequential Intercept Model* (New York: Policy Research Associates, 2018), <https://www.prainc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/PRA-SIM-Letter-Paper-2018.pdf>.

A Comprehensive Crisis Strategy with Essential Components of Local Crisis Responses



988: A Shared Opportunity

988: A Shared Opportunity for Law Enforcement

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgO94vGcsSo>

988: A Shared Opportunity

- For criminal justice stakeholders, the transition to 988 is an important opportunity to
 - **Shift people in crisis toward appropriate care, and**
 - **Minimize contact with law enforcement and the criminal legal system.**
- Important design and operational questions are emerging about how 988 will interface with **existing law enforcement and crisis responses.**
- ***However, many criminal justice stakeholders have limited awareness of 988.***

To fully take advantage of this opportunity, criminal justice partners need to **understand what 988 offers** and create processes to appropriately **direct people to 988 from first contact with law enforcement through reentry.**

988 as a Reentry Resource

People returning from jails and prisons are at higher risk of attempting and dying by suicide, a risk that may be higher among people returning to the community later in life.



- 988 can be an excellent resource to connect returning community members to local services in times of crisis.
- More needs to be done to **build awareness of 988 at Intercepts 4 and 5** to leverage this new resource to save lives in our communities.

Lisa C. Barry et al., "Increased Risk of Suicide Attempts and Unintended Death Among Those Transitioning from Prison to Community in Later Life," *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry: Official Journal of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry* 26, no. 11 (2018): 1165–1174, doi:10.1016/j.jagp.2018.07.004.

The CSG Justice Center's National 988 Work to Date

988: A new resource for people in crisis

WHAT IS 988?

Not everyone who calls 911 needs a police response. As a law enforcement officer, you can help people in your community receive the help they need. In times of crisis, that may mean connecting people directly to crisis-trained counselors.

As of July 16, 2022, people in crisis can reach the suicide and crisis lifeline by dialing or texting 988. 988 services are distinct and separate from the emergency medical and public safety response associated with 911.

For more information about 988, visit <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988/>.

WHEN TO CALL 988:

988 is more than just an easy-to-remember number—it's a direct connection to compassionate, accessible care and support for anyone experiencing mental health-related distress, including:

- Thoughts of suicide
- Mental health or substance use crisis
- Non-crisis emotional distress
- Concern for a loved one who may need crisis support

988 is confidential, free, and available 24/7/365

CALL or TEXT 988
CHAT at 988lifeline.org

- **988: A Shared Opportunity web page**
- **Site Snapshot:** How Five Jurisdictions are Rethinking Crisis Response with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- **Pocket Card for Law Enforcement**
- **Taking the Call: Conference and Resources,** October 2021
- **Brief: How to Use 988 to Respond to Behavioral Health Crisis Calls,** May 2022
- **Social Media Campaign: 988 Day of Action** promoting 988 launch, July 2022
- **Webinar: The Role of 988 in Supporting People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities,** Dec. 2022



National Forecasting Group Meeting January 24, 2023 | Washington, DC

Co-hosted with SAMHSA and the CSG Justice Center, the meeting set out to achieve the following **goals**:

- Build a collective vision for 988 as a shared opportunity for behavioral health providers, law enforcement, and communities.
- Discuss activities to date where law enforcement and other justice system partners are developing training, policies, and practices to operationalize 988 in their communities.
- Identify key junctures and considerations for engaging law enforcement in 988 implementation.
- Better understand law enforcement's needs to inform federal strategy for funding, resources, and technical assistance.

Current and Former JMHCP Grantees

Law Enforcement-Mental Health Learning Sites

National Law Enforcement Groups

National Affiliate Groups: NACo, NCSL, NCJA

Federal Leaders: SAMHSA, OJP, COPS, NHTSA

Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Partners

Major Takeaways



A continued commitment from federal agencies is critical to the success of 988 nationwide.



Meaningful cross-system collaboration requires trust among partners and a shared understanding across systems.



Equity and access are central to a shared vision of 988.

Call Triage

Technology

**Right
Responder**

**Somewhere
to Go**

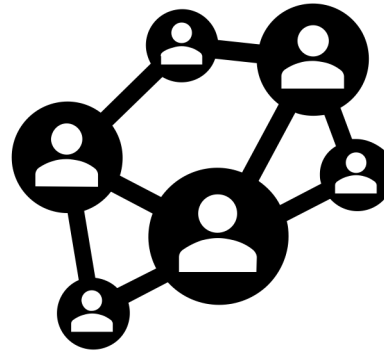
**Building
Trust**

Workforce

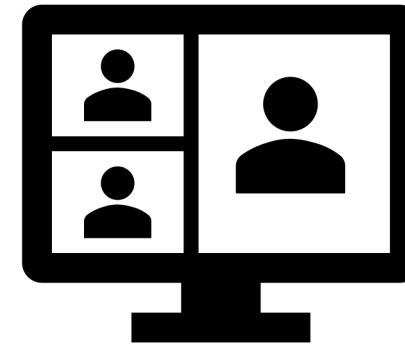
Plans Going Forward



**988 Toolkit of
Resources for
Criminal Justice
Partners
2023–2024**



**988 Public
Awareness
Campaign
2023–2024**



**988/911
Coordination
Community of
Practice
2024**

Discussion

- What is your sense of the state of criminal justice stakeholder engagement in 988 in California?
- What guidance and support is needed to better engage criminal justice partners across intercepts in 988 implementation?

Thank You!

Join our distribution list to receive updates and announcements:

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/newsletters/>

For more information, please contact Hallie Fader-Towe at hfader@csg.org

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