


**Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Agenda and Minutes**

	Meeting	988 Planning Coalition
	Time	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM EST
	Date	October 19, 2023
	Location	Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities 200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. Suite 512, West Tower 5 th floor Boardroom Atlanta, GA 30334-9026

Topic	Documents (if applicable)
Respect Institute Speaker	N/A
988 Implementation Updates	988 meeting materials
Discussion Topics: BHRIC Sub Committee and FY24 and FY25 funding priorities	988 meeting materials
Wrap-up and Next Steps	988 meeting materials

Meeting Notes

Welcome:

- Brenda Cibulas, Executive Director for the Division of Behavioral Health opened the meeting with remarks on the value our DBHDD stakeholders bring to the 988 initiatives to enhance the lives of Georgians around the state.



Agenda Item 1: Respect Institute Speaker

- Toyia Mather introduced a speaker from the Respect Institute, Emily Waters, to share her lived experience and story of hope and recovery.

Agenda Item 2: DBHDD’s 988 Implementation updates

- Kelly Parry provided a brief summary of the 988 planning and implementation timeline, followed by an introduction of DBHDD’s new data dashboard on Georgia’s 988 website. The interactive dashboard displays metrics related to 988 and the Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL). Users may access data dashboard at 988ga.org/data.

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Data dashboard now available online

Georgia's 988 website now includes an interactive dashboard with metrics related to 988 and the Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL). Users can filter on the time period and see data including:

- Total calls, texts, and chats received
- Number of mobile crisis dispatches
- Number of referrals to community-based crisis centers

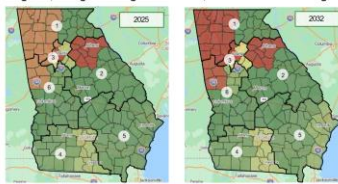
988ga.org/data



- Dawn Peel provided information on Georgia's current mobile crisis data and the number of referrals to Crisis stabilization units and Behavioral Health Crisis Centers. In addition, Dawn shared SAMHSA's five-year vision for 988 and Georgia's current progress to meet the SAMHSA Horizons.
 - September FY24 mobile crisis dispatch volume is approximately 25% higher than the volume in September FY20.
 - There are regional differences in mobile crisis utilization. We will continue to monitor this data to see if it trends.
 - Referrals were 7.1% higher in June FY23 than June FY22.
 - Referrals were 5.4% higher in July FY24 than July FY23.
 - Referrals were 5.9% higher in August FY24 than August FY23.
- Daniel Harlan from Alvarez & Marsal provided a brief overview of the crisis bed study in which a model was created to identify future bed capacity needs for Georgia's behavioral health crisis and forensic system.
 - The Study shows a baseline projection of needed beds based on a) historical utilization of Georgia's behavioral health crisis system from 2018-2022 and b) future population growth.
 - While this study focuses on behavioral health crisis beds, it is not meant to suggest that DBHDD should invest only in this level of care, or at this level of care at the expense of other services. DBHDD supports a broad statewide system in which behavioral health crisis beds are one component of various inter-related services.

Summary of Adult Behavioral Health Projections

Adult behavioral health bed need is greatest in the northwest corner of Georgia, concentrated in Regions 1, 2, and 3. These regions, along with Regions 4 and 6, will need a total of eight additional facilities by 2032 to meet demand.



Region #	2025 No. of Facilities	2032 Additional Facilities	2025 No. of Beds	2032 Additional Beds	2025 No. of CSU Beds	2032 Additional CSU Beds
1	14	1	34	0	37	0
2	21	1	24	0	26	0
3	12	3	16	0	17	1
4	5	0	10	1	10	0
5	2	0	1	0	4	0
6	4	0	8	0	13	1
Totals	58	5	148	1	154	2

Assessment

The model suggests that Georgia will need **additional eight facilities (BHCCs with 24 CSU beds and 16 TempOs chairs) over the next 10 periods** to meet growing demand for crisis beds. The timing and location of these new facilities will vary depending on region and service area:

- Region 1: 1 new facility by 2025
- Region 2: 1 new facility by 2025
- Region 3: 3 new facilities by 2025 and 1 additional facility by 2032
- Region 4: 1 new facility by 2027
- Region 5: 0 new facilities needed
- Region 6: 1 new facility by 2032

The model also suggests there is a material return need for most of these additional facilities: **five of the eight facilities are needed before 2025**

This projected need assumes that Georgia can meet optimal occupancy for all its existing facilities (i.e. **no Gap**). If this is not achieved, the number of needed additional beds and facilities will be greater.

"**BH Excess**" is the bed need resulting from reallocation of growth in demand for state hospital beds to BHCCs / CSUs, gated by service area population across the state.

While creation of new BHCCs can reduce the use of **abstracted private hospital beds** by 2025, Georgia will need **address temporary gaps before new facilities come online** by continuing to use **abstracted private hospital beds** in the short term. This also assumes **adjacent service areas with spare capacity can take on volume from service areas with an anticipated gap** in the same region.

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- Dawn Peel continued the conversation with updates on the transportation study which has been focusing on Region 4 and several counties in Region 5. DBHDD has collaborated with the Sheriff's Association to study the impact of transporting individuals experiencing a crisis to an emergency receiving facility. Data collection is currently underway, and a preliminary report is expected in early 2024.
 - DBHDD will continue to collaborate with our partners and stakeholders to identify ways to decrease the impact of transportation for law enforcement. Funding has been requested for FY25 to create a transportation pilot.
- Wendy Tiegreen presented the Medicaid behavioral health rate study and the fiscal impact or the ARPA interface.
 - House Bill 911 provided DBHDD funds to complete a study of the Medicaid Rehabilitation Option which is managed with DCH.
 - DCH/DBHDD plan to CMS call for implement rate increases with relief funds provided to state for providers. Funds must be released through a claims process before March 31, 2025
- Brian Tolleson from Lexicon Strategies discussed the initial 988 marketing in Georgia and DBHDD's current marketing efforts and statewide awareness. Tolleson explains after providing a survey to Georgians about 988 vs. 911, there is little confusion over what number to dial when people understand that 988 is the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.
 - DBHDD has been provided over 2 million dollars in funding committed to awareness efforts in Georgia. DBHDD has put forth effort for a wide range of projects that are underway to increase awareness by March 2024. Most projects will have a non-profit, agency or community partner to guide messaging and delivery.
 - For Stakeholder recourses and toolkits more information can be found at 988ga.org/resources

Agenda Item 3: Discussion Topic: BHRIC Sub Committee

- Wendy Tiegreen led the group in an open discussion regarding the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission (BHRIC) and the 988 FY25 budget priorities. Absent legislation related to 988, the DBHDD team has developed additional mechanisms to inform statewide strategies to continue the enhancement of 988 and the behavioral health crisis system. One potential pathway for this work is to establish a sub-committee of the existing Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission (BHRIC) focused on 988.
- Potential objectives for the 988 Sub-committee:
 - Understand current state crisis system and make recommendations on potential opportunities 988 provides to enhance the system
 - Study current crisis system budget and future investment needed
 - Make recommendations on sustainable funding options for the crisis system
- Question to the Stakeholders:
 - What objectives would you like to see a sub-committee accomplish?
 - What are your key messages around these budget asks and what tools do you need as a Coalition member?

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- Many stakeholders agree that data, utilization and need trends are the top priorities and tools to accurately message 988. This includes understanding the demand and utilization of services at the statewide and regional level. Another important component of data analysis is to understand the connections and referrals made during or after a call to 988 and how individuals are being served by the system.
- Stakeholders would like to see 988 looked at as a system and not only a number to be dialed.
- A suggestion was made to explore potential future funding streams for 988 outside of state and federal funding, such as contributions from university systems referring students to 988.
- Planning Coalition members requested talking points to support their ability to communicate investment in our system to date and future priorities.

Agenda Item 4: Next Steps

- Dawn Peel shared a brief summary of the next steps for the Planning Coalition Stakeholders as outlined below.

Next Steps

- Lookout an invitation to our next virtual session
- Share the updates, tools and resources with your networks and community
- Continue to share your feedback and ideas on how we can collectively enhance Georgia's crisis system

Action Items

Action Item	Owner
Share meeting minutes and outputs with attendees	DBHDD Team

Workgroup Attendance

Member	Attended	Member	Attended
Abrem Ayana	No	Fabio VanDer Merwe	Yes
Chief Butch Ayers	No	Greg Whitaker	No
Laurisa Barthen	No	Cody Whitlock	No
Daria Chrysochoos	No	Victoria Williams	Yes
Michael Claeys	Yes	Lieutenant Barry Woodard	No
Glyn Corbitt	Yes	Laursia Guerrero	No

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Katie Cossette	No	Chief Yarbrough	No
Melanie Dallas	No	Brian Tolleson	Yes
Charles Dansby	No	Sheryl Golub	Yes
Selina Evans	No	Gayathri Paidymanu	No
Wendy Farmer	No	Ethan Haynes	Yes
Jessica Foust	Yes		
Robyn Garrett	No		
Megan Gleason	No		
Shandel Graham	No		
Chief Brandon Gurly	No		
Jesse Hambrick	No		
Ann Hernandez	No		
Shaynee Hogges	Yes		
Heather James	No		
Chris Johnson	Yes		
Dr. Mark Johnson	No		
Michael Johnson	Yes		
Kim Jones	No		
Dr. Hugh Myrick	No		
Sheriff Terry Norris	No		
Chelsea Piatt	Yes		
Aleisha Rucker-Wright	No		
Dr. Daniel Salinas	No		
Sheriff Gary Sisk	No		
Sue Smith	Yes		
Pat Strode	No		
Lori Geary	No		
Toyia Mather	Yes		
Kennedy Reid	Yes		

DBHDD Attendance			
<i>Representative</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Representative</i>	<i>Attended</i>
Adrian Johnson	No	Katherine Schiller	Yes
Anna Bourque	Yes	Kelly Parry	Yes

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Ashley Fielding	Yes	Kennedy Dickerson	Yes
Brandon Kenney	No	Mahogany Ellis	Yes
Brenda Cibulas	Yes	Melissa Sperbeck	Yes
Brenda Woodard	Yes	Michael Polacek	Yes
Chavis Paulk	No	Monica Patel	No
Chelsee Nabritt	Yes	Patryk Bielecki	No
Christopher Hamilton	No	Peter Baker	Yes
Dawn Peel	Yes	Rachael Holloman	No
Debra Martin	Yes	Sheree Ralston	No
Jeffrey Minor	No	Virginia Sizemore	No
Wendy Tiegreen	Yes		