

Crisis Services

By increasing the availability of timely, community-based crisis services across the state for Ohioans of all ages, we reduce trauma, expedite recovery, and prevent strain on law enforcement, criminal justice, and hospital emergency departments.

2026 – 2027 Budget Priorities

- **Enhance 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** Leverage funding to increase public awareness of the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline with a goal of minimizing unnecessary emergency department visits and the involvement of law enforcement for behavioral health crises.
- **Expand Youth Mobile Response and Stabilization Services:** Sustain operations so that young people in all 88 counties have access to mobile crisis response services. This prevents unnecessary ED usage, decreases arrests, stabilizes families, and improves school attendance. MRSS provides immediate de-escalation and up to 42 days of follow-up support.
- **Increase Access to Adult Mobile Crisis Services:** Implement a statewide network so that every Ohioan has access to emergency behavioral health care when and where they need it. Mobile crisis response reduces the burden on law enforcement, criminal justice, and hospital emergency departments, and is a more appropriate response for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Why It Matters

Investing in crisis services:

- Follows best practices framework of **someone to call, someone to respond and somewhere to go.**
- **Provides more effective and efficient crisis response** services, leading to more individuals seeking treatment when and where they need it.
- **Reduces unnecessary hospitalizations** and law enforcement involvement.
- Improves health outcomes.
- Ensures people receive care that is **person-centered, trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented.**

By the Numbers

- In 2022, **17.3% of the population had a substance use disorder** in the past year. Among **adults aged 18 or older 23.1% had any mental illness** in the past year.¹
- Since the national launch in July 2022, 988 has received **10.8 million** calls, texts, and chats.
- Since its inception in 2004, MRSS has consistently maintained **94%** of children in their current living situation, at the time of service, including children who are involved with the child welfare system. Families have reported high satisfaction with services, with a **250% increase** in families accessing MRSS.²

¹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), “[Highlights for the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#)”, P. 2, (November 2023).

² SAMHSA, Making the Case for a Comprehensive Children’s Crisis Continuum of Care. [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (2020).