
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2026

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2025



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

988 Suicide and Crisis Line — Region Incentive Fund (RIF)

Purpose and History

2024 Iowa Acts, [House File 2673](#) (Behavioral Health Service System Act), established a Behavioral Health Service System under the control of the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) responsible for implementing a statewide system related to mental health and addiction disorders. The Act consolidated programs related to mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse into the Behavioral Health Division of the HHS. This new system divides the State into seven Behavioral Health Districts which are managed by Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations (BH-ASOs).

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provide free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. The 988 Lifeline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through calling or texting 9-8-8 on a phone, or online through the online [988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#).

Funding — Region Incentive Fund

2021 Iowa Acts, [Senate File 619](#) (FY 2022 Taxation and Other Provisions Act), created a new Region Incentive Fund in the Mental Health and Disability Services Regional Service Fund to provide additional funding to the MHDS Regions and specified the criteria under which an MHDS Region may apply for funding. The Region Incentive Fund consists of moneys appropriated or credited to the Region Incentive Fund, with an initial appropriation of \$3.0 million in FY 2022.

The Behavioral Health Service System Act appropriated \$3.0 million from the Region Incentive Fund to the HHS in FY 2025 to support the Statewide 988 Suicide and Crisis Line.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [225C](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [441—24](#)

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More Information

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