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Transcript

July 2, 2025, 4:27PM

JA Jack Arutyunyan 3:43

Good morning, everyone.

I'm Jack Arutyunyan from the chief executive office and I'll call the meeting to order now. Please note that the meeting will be muted for all participants. You can unmute yourself using the teams app or by dialing *6 if you're calling into the meeting. As a reminder, public comment will be limited to two minutes.

We will begin with introductions with the board offices going first.

Would our chair please?

Introduce yourself.

CT Cash, Tyler 4:12

Yeah. Good morning, Jack.

This is Tyler from St. 5.

JA Jack Arutyunyan 4:15

Thank you very much.

Do we have representatives from the first district on the call?

GJ Garcia-Delgadillo, Jazmine 4:20

Hi, good morning.

Jasmine Garcia, your first district.

JA Jack Arutyunyan 4:24

Thank you, Jasmine.

Do we have representatives from the 2nd district on the call?

AE

Arrazola, Elizabeth 4:30

Morning, Elizabeth Arasola second district.

JA

Jack Arutyunyan 4:33

Morning, Elizabeth.

Do we have representatives from the third district on the call?

AA

Ayala, Angelica 4:39

Good morning. Angelica, yell at her district.

JA

Jack Arutyunyan 4:43

Morning, Angelica.

Do we have representatives from the 4th district on the call?

CK

Coates, Kyla 4:50

Good morning.

It's Kylie Coates.

JA

Jack Arutyunyan 4:53

Morning Kyla.

Do we have any any other representatives from the 5th district on the call?

Thank you.

County Council, would you like to introduce yourself?

EI

Emily Issa 5:09

Good morning, Emily Isa from County Council.

JA

Jack Arutyunyan 5:13

Thank you very much.

I see we have CEO budget on the call.

Do we have any other CEO staff on the call that would like to introduce themselves?

Do we have any other representatives from County Council on the call that would like to introduce themselves?

Do we have representatives from public health on the call?
OK. Do we have representatives from mental health on the call?

ES **Elan Shultz** 5:49
Hey, good morning.
This is Elon Schultz from dmh.

JA **Jack Arutyunyan** 5:53
Morning.
Do we have any representatives from health services on the call?

AG **Allen Gomez** 5:59
Good morning, Alan Gomez.

CS **Connie Salgado-Sanchez** 6:02
Good morning, Connie Salgado. Sanchez, DHS.

OT **Ovsanna Thomas** 6:06
Good morning, osana, Thomas.

JA **Jack Arutyunyan** 6:10
Good morning.
Do we have any representatives from any associations or organizations on the call that would like to introduce themselves?

DG **Danny Gonzalez** 6:20
Morning. This is Danny Gonzalez with the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

JA **Jack Arutyunyan** 6:27
Do we have any members of the public on the call that would like to introduce themselves?
All right. We will now proceed with today's meeting. As noted on the agenda, we have one board motion and it's for SD4, preserving suicide prevention support for LGBTQ plus residents in Los Angeles County amid the federal Directive to eliminate

funding for the specialized press, three option of.
988 for LGBTQ plus youth callers, and I'll turn it over to SD4.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 7:00

Great. Thank you so much.

Good morning, everyone.

You all have probably heard the news that the federal administration has announced that they will be cutting funding to the connection via 988 to LGBTQ plus services.

So this motion is about #1 understanding what that means for us here in LA County and what the impact will be. And then #2 looking into seeing if there's any options that.

La County can implement local.

That will still provide those specialized services to LGBTQ plus youth who dial 988.

So just a little bit of background right now when someone dials 988, there is a menu of options that comes up and one of them includes pressing 3. If you are a youth who's LGBTQ plus who wants specialized services, and if someone presses 3, then they.

Get routed to an LGBTQ plus hotline.

Including the Trevor Project is one of the hotlines that's available.

And they get specialized over the phone counseling for LGBTQ plus services and counseling. That is what is being threatened via our understanding by these new federal cuts.

And so we're kind of unsure what that will look like, whether it means that there will no longer be funding for calls to be routed to the Trevor Project or other hotlines or if it means there will no longer be funding for.

The LGBTQ plus hotline.

That provide those services. So the first directive is understanding what that cut means, and then the second directive is asking dmh to collaborate with the relevant stakeholders.

So that's mainly Dede Hirsch, who's our 988 provider locally in LA County, The Trevor Project.

Who's the press?

Three LGBTQ plus hotline in LA County and then vibrant emotional help, which is the. National router who does all the routing.

And so directing them to collaborate with these stakeholders to explore if there are

different options to maintain those services and connections for LGBTQ plus youth who dial 988.

So that's a quick overview.

I don't know if anyone has any questions.

JA Jack Arutyunyan 9:17

Any questions from our board offices?

First Vic.

GV Gomez, Victoria 9:25

Hi, good morning.

Sorry I didn't introduce myself.

Joined a little bit late. Victoria Gomez second district. Thank you for this presentation and this important motion.

My questions may be answered via the report back, but still just for the purpose of the group, wanted to uplift them.

So I'm assuming direct one would just kind of report back to estimated cost to sustain this program if we don't receive federal funding and then?

Possibly explore if other jurisdictions have discussed doing similar efforts and then also I had a question whether or not this, there's been discussions that the state could step in in any way.

CK Coates, Kyla 10:08

Yeah. So director one is also about understanding what this cut means.

So there's been a lot of confusion amongst people from the governments, people from the nonprofits that run these, the contracted organizations, about what the cut actually means. There's been confusion about whether it's a cut to 988 services, about whether it's a cut just to, you know.

The LGBTQ plus hotline, whether it's a cut to vibrant, who does the routing.

Doesn't mean that a local entity like LA County.

Can continue to allow the press three option if they just find it themselves. Or is it prohibiting the press three option?

What do these cuts actually look like for us, and what is going to be the the manifestation of them on the ground?

So that's kind of what number one is, right.

Like, what does this actually do and what does it not do right?
I heard from DD Hirsch that they want it to be very clear that is not ending 988.
It is not cutting 988 because some people were very concerned about that.
So we want to make publicly clear what these cuts are doing.
But they aren't doing.
And then #2 is what you said kind of looking at options, right?
Could the state choose to step in and fund this?
Could LA County choose to step in and fund this?
Could we look at other options like if someone is talking to 988 on DD Hirsch, could the DD Hirsch phone callers ask if that person is an LGBTQ plus youth and wants to be transferred to the Trevor Project?
And then we do the transfer without the press. Three option, right?
There are different.
Ways. Maybe that we could look at, still making sure that that connection exists for youth who want it and need it. Without this federal funding.
So that's what option two is is give us kind of our options here and look at what we could do.

GV Gomez, Victoria 11:52
Great. Thank you so much.

JA Jack Arutyunyan 11:57
Any other questions from our other board offices?

CK Coates, Kyla 12:03
I see Ilan from Dmhi. Don't know if he he popped on my video so I don't know if he wants to say anything.

ES Elan Shultz 12:09
Thanks Kyla.
Yeah. I just wanted to note that Dmh is actually not involved in these contracts at all.
This is not a pass through.
So this money doesn't go through the county. So we appreciate this motion and the chance to actually figure out what's going on here and what the options are, as Kayla noted.

But I just want to note that it is not clear to us at this point if there actually is a way for the county to.

Sustain these services.

And I'm not saying that it that it can't be done.

We just don't know and we don't know because we're not.

We don't know exactly, as Kylie noted, what's being cut.

What may be prevented, and we also don't know the capacity of the service providers in this case, like the Trevor Project to actually to, to sustain the staff that they have.

So a lot of questions here and because we are not directly involved in the flow of these dollars or the provision of the actual.

988 Call center services. We need to do some investigation ourselves.

CK

Coates, Kyla 13:14

Yeah, absolutely.

And that's, I think the point of number one too.

And it involves CEO layer because like you said, Elon, it's not actually a dmh program, right or project.

JA

Jack Arutyunyan 13:29

Elizabeth.

AE

Arrazola, Elizabeth 13:31

Thank you, Kayla, and thank you, Elon.

I I had a question then since Dmh is not directly involved in the contracts in the call center.

Is part of that report back also seeing how that option is utilized?

Like are we trying?

Are we also going to get data on how many youth utilize this option?

Will that be included in the report back?

CK

Coates, Kyla 13:57

Well, it's not written here, but I think that's something that we could get from the Trevor Project pretty easily, right?

So we could probably just ask them.

They must have that data of how many calls are transferred from 988 to the hotline each month.

Because I got, you know, Didi Hearst provides data on 988 calls.

So Dede Hearst wouldn't have the data for this because they don't get calls that are press 3, right?

But we could definitely get that information.

ES **Elan Shultz** 14:24

And just so you know, Elizabeth, it looks like nationwide, it looks like about 10% of all calls.

2988 actually end up being routed to the LGBTQ line.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 14:35

OK.

ES **Elan Shultz** 14:38

I'll drop in the chat that the federal website that shares some of that data.

It's a samsa website, but it looks like right now for the first five months of 2025.

There's been about 3.2 million calls nationwide.

988 and about 325 thousand of those are going to the LGBTQ line that we're discussing.

But that's nationwide.

I don't know specifically what the ratio is for California.

My guess honestly is that it's higher in LA County, just where I would expect a larger percentage of LGBTQ population to be living compared to nationwide.

But that's just a guess on my part.

GJ **Garcia-Delgadillo, Jazmine** 15:22

Quickly add to what Elizabeth said. I think understanding the cost of sustaining the the hotline in LA County, I think will also be helpful. And maybe that's part of what you're hoping to get in direct of one. But I think it would be good to know like what? Is the cost of sustaining the hotline for specifically for LGBTQ plus youth?

JA **Jack Arutyunyan** 15:53

Thank you for that Jasmine any.

Any other questions or comments from our board offices before we go to public comment?

I don't see any hands raised.

Alright, any public comment on this item?

DG **Danny Gonzalez** 16:11

Hello, good morning.

This is Danny Gonzalez with the Los Angeles LGBT Center pronounced he him his we wanted to make sure that we are expressing our gratitude for Supervisor Han for this motion. We recognize that in a time where the LGBT community is really being attacked on a federal level, we.

Are looking for our local leadership to do this type of.

Motion to make sure that we are backing our LGBT community, making sure that we're understanding.

Exactly what?

These motions mean and how our county can do their best to defend our LGBT community and specifically our LGBT youth.

We have one of the highest LGBT youth rates here in Los Angeles and we want to make sure that their lives are protected and keeping this hotline open is paramount for this. We need more services. We do not need to dial back services now at this time, so.

Thank you, Supervisor Han, and thank you all for an incredible work you do.

JA **Jack Arutyunyan** 17:08

Thank you.

Any other public comment on this item?

All right.

Thank you very much SD4.

We don't have anything for items 3:00 and 4:00. So we will now move on to item 5, which is general public comment on today's agenda. Again, quick reminder, general public comment is limited to two minutes.

Do we have any general public comment on today's agenda?

I don't see any hands raised.

Thank you very much everyone for participating in today's meeting.

We will now adjourn the meeting.

Have a have a great day.

□ **Jack Arutyunyan** stopped transcription