

## **Crisis Call Numbers Comparison Chart**

| Questions   | 988*<br>*800-273-TALK will route here  | LACDMH Helpline<br>(800) 854-7771   | 911  |
|---|--|---|--|
| When should I call?   | Anyone can call/text this<br>number if they or someone<br>they know are having a<br>mental health, substance<br>use or suicidal crisis and<br>need support over the<br>phone or through online<br>chat (988lifeline.org) | Anyone can call this<br>number if they or someone<br>they know need non-crisis<br>mental health referrals or<br>need emotional support. | Anyone experiencing a life-<br>threatening emergency or<br>in any situation that<br>requires immediate<br>assistance from the police,<br>fire department or<br>ambulance.  |
| Can I call this number<br>even if I don't have a<br>mental health emergency<br>and just need to speak to<br>someone for mental/<br>emotional support? | Yes  | Yes   | No   |
| When are services offered?  | 24/7   | 24/7  | 24/7   |
| What services are offered?  | Crisis counseling;<br>connections to services;<br>connection to in-person<br>field response by a mental<br>health team.  | Referrals to mental health<br>services; emotional<br>support.   | Dispatching of first<br>responder services (law<br>enforcement, fire<br>departments, emergency<br>medical services).   |
| Who answers the calls?  | Trained mental health crisis counselors.   | Trained mental health staff<br>including trained active<br>listeners on the emotional<br>support line.                                  | 911 Dispatchers  |
| Can this number provide<br>in-person response in<br>the field?  | Yes. Through coordination<br>with LACDMH Help Line<br>staff, field response teams<br>that include mental health<br>professionals and peer<br>workers can be<br>dispatched.   | Yes, Help Line staff can<br>dispatch field response<br>teams that include mental<br>health professionals and<br>peer workers.           | Yes, dispatchers can<br>deploy first responder units<br>(including law<br>enforcement, firefighter,<br>emergency medical<br>services). If available, co-<br>response teams (which<br>include a law enforcement<br>officer and a mental health<br>professional) will be<br>deployed for calls involving<br>mental health. |
| When will in-person response be dispatched?   | If situation escalates or not<br>stabilized through<br>phone/text/chat, mental<br>health teams will be<br>dispatched.  | If situation escalates or not<br>stabilized through phone,<br>will dispatch mental health<br>teams.                                     | Depending on severity of<br>situation, may deploy first<br>responder teams or refer<br>to LACDMH Help Line for<br>mental health team.  |
| Who will be responding<br>when the situation<br>requires an in-person<br>response?  | Psychiatric mobile<br>response teams, which are<br>teams of trained mental<br>health professionals and<br>peers.   | Psychiatric mobile<br>response teams, which are<br>teams of trained mental<br>health professionals and<br>peers.                        | First responders such as<br>law enforcement, fire<br>department, EMS, co-<br>response teams (mental<br>health professional and<br>law enforcement)   |

| Will law enforcement be<br>involved in the in-person<br>response?  | No, unless there is an<br>immediate risk of safety to<br>the caller or to the public,<br>then the caller will be<br>connected with first<br>responders such as law<br>enforcement or emergency<br>medical services.  | No, unless there is an<br>immediate risk of safety to<br>the caller or to the public,<br>then the caller will be<br>connected with first<br>responders such as law<br>enforcement or emergency<br>medical services. | Yes. May dispatch co-<br>response teams (1 law<br>enforcement officer + 1<br>mental health professional)<br>when available. |
|--|--|---|---|
| Will my location<br>automatically shared<br>when I call?   | No.  | No.   | Yes.  |
| If I have an out of county<br>cell phone number and<br>call this number, will I<br>have access to L.A.<br>County services? | If you are in L.A. County<br>but using an out-of-County<br>cell phone area code, you<br>will reach the 988 call<br>center corresponding to<br>your phone's area code.<br>However, you can provide<br>your location to be<br>connected to L.A. County<br>services in your area. | Yes. You will reach L.A.<br>County Help Line staff.   | Your call will be<br>geolocated and you will be<br>connected to dispatchers<br>closest to your physical<br>location.        |