

MHLG Statement on Restoration of Specialized 988 Support for LGBTQ+ Youth

The Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) welcomes the reinstatement and operation of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Press 3 LGBTQ+ youth specialized services.

We have long supported 988 and specialized crisis services, including for veterans and for LGBTQ + youth and advocated for the establishment of 988 as a national suicide and crisis response system.

We have consistently advocated for sustained federal investment in 988 and specialized services, including through FY2026 funding, which Congress approved, and we continue to advocate for the resources needed to ensure these critical services remain available to everyone who needs them. We also support bipartisan legislation to codify specialized services for LGBTQ+ youth as part of 988.

We recognize and thank the bipartisan congressional champions who fought for the restoration of this critical service and sustained their efforts for more than a year to see its return. MHLG looks forward to its continued availability and to ensuring that LGBTQ+ young people can access specialized crisis support through 988 when they need it.

About the Mental Health Liaison Group

The Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) is a nonprofit coalition of more than 100 national organizations representing people with mental health and substance use conditions, family members and caregivers, providers of mental health and substance use treatment and support, advocates, and other stakeholders committed to strengthening access to mental health and substance use care. Together, MHLG members work to elevate the national conversation around mental health and substance use and advance federal policies that support prevention, early intervention, treatment, crisis response, and recovery services and supports.