



STATE OF WASHINGTON

HB 1477 Crisis Response Improvement Strategy (CRIS) Progress Report 2023 Consultation

12/13/2023

Hosted by the Health Care Authority and Department of Health

Tribal Government Attendees:

- Coeur d'Alene Tribe - Charlie Way, Marimn Health
- Jamestown S'Klallam – Andrew Shogren, Tribal Health Planner
- Nisqually Indian Tribe – Lisa Wells, Tribal Health Clinic - Business Office Manager
- Skokomish Tribe – Desiree White; Kemie Nanstad, Skokomish Public Health and Wellness; Laila Longshore- Skokomish Tribal Program Advocate; Dr. Donna Durnford Skokomish Tribe Victim Advocate
- Squaxin Island Tribe - Ofi Tovia, Director of NW Indian Treatment Center
- Suquamish Tribe – Stephen Kutz, Health Director
- Stillaguamish Tribe – Tempest Dawson, Director

Tribal Organizations/non-Tribal Indian Health Care Provider Attendees:

- American Indian Community Center Spokane – Sephanie Sijohn, EA/Special Projects; Shelley E
- Seattle Indian Heath Board (SIHB) - Andrew Guillen, Policy Director
- American Indian Health Commission - Vicki Lowe, Executive Director; Jen Olson, Medicaid transformation and Tribal Public Health consultant; Katherine Akeah, Consultant; Ashley Lowe-Thaens, Legislative Intern; Maria Ness, Legislative Consultant; Pam Priest; Jessica McKee, Tribal FPHS Coord. & Emergency Response Lead; Faith Turk, Environment Public Health Coordinator, AIHC

State Agencies:

- Department of Health (DOH) – Dr. Umair Shah, Health Secretary; Lacy Fehrenbach, Chief of Prevention; Michele Roberts, Assistant Secretary for Prevention and Community Health; Candice Wilson, Quatz'tenaut, Tribal Policy Director; Kathy Pierre, ESJ Strategist for Tribal Relations; Amira Caluya, 988 Implementation Specialist; Christopher Castleberry, HEAL Tribal Engagement Coordinator; Katie Larkin, Governmental Public Health System Specialist; Lisa Niels, Vaccine Tribal Liaison; Danny Feeman, DOH 988 Project Director; Lena Rubinstein, DOH 988 Project Director
- Department of Social and Health Services - Tim Collins, Office of Indian Policy Director; Leah Muasau, Tribal Contracts Coordinator; Heather Hoyle, OIP Regional Manager; Marco Tan, Deputy Director; Bethany Osgood, Planning Director, Tribal Liaison and EMS Coordinator for Aging and Long-Term Care of Eastern WA
- Health Care Authority - Sue Birch, Director, Director; Aren Spark, Tribal Affairs Administrator, Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA); Lucilla Mendoza, Tribal BH Administrator, OTA; Mike Longnecker- Claims and Billing Technician, OTA; Auddie Gugle, Tribal Liaison, South Cascade, South Puget Sound and King Regions, OTA; Raina Peone, Tribal Liaison, Eastern Washington;

Nicole Earls; Tribal Liaison, Peninsula and Coast Region, OTA; Tina Anderson; Tribal Liaison North Sound; Annette Squetimkin-Anquoe, HCA Tribal Grants and Contracts Coordinator, OTA; Bailey McDonald, PCCMe Manager; Luke Waggoner, ITA and Crisis System Supervisor; HCA Assisted Outpatient Treatment Administrator

Other Partners: Nicola Pinson, HMA; Lexa Donnelly, Great Rivers BH-ASO; Kari Goudge, Great Rivers BH-ASO; Rochelle Hamilton; Director of Tribal Services, VOA

Meeting Minutes:

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome by: Aren Sparck, HCA-OTA, Tribal Affairs Administrator & Candice Wilson, DOH, Tribal Policy Director

Introduction of Elected Tribal Officials: No Tribal Elected Officials present.

Introduction of Tribal Leaders and Representatives: Invitation for Leaders to introduce themselves.

Opening Statements

Dr. Umir Shah: Thanked the elected and tribal health leaders for their attendance. Dr Shah welcomed all participants and spoke about the importance of the collaborative work.

Sue Birch: Also thanked Tribal Elected Officials and Tribal Health Leaders for participating in the Consultation and throughout the RT and on the 988 Subcommittee and Tribal Centric BH Advisory Board. Sent appreciation for state agency partners, DOH, HMA and the CRIS Committees for the long-standing work over the past year to update the HB 1477 Crisis Improvement Committee Progress Report.

Purpose of Consultation

The WA State Legislature passed House Bill 1477 in the 2022 Legislative session, to comply with the national suicide hotline designation act of 2020 and the federal communications commission's rules adopted July 16, 2020, to assure that all Washington residents receive a consistent and effective level of 988 suicide prevention and other behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention services no matter where they live, work, or travel response improvement plan for the state. This bill required the creation of a Crisis Response Improvement Strategy (CRIS) committee with several partners across the state with several subcommittees, one of which is the CRIS Tribal 988 Subcommittee.

In 2022, the HCA was requested through the Tribal 988 Subcommittee representatives to host Consultation on the CRIS and Technical and Operations Plan in addition to working through the Tribal 988 CRIS subcommittee.

The CRIS committee is not connected to any one agency; therefore, it was determined that HCA and DOH would host the Consultation process in partnership with Health Management Associates, HMA, contractor with the UW Harborview providing coordination of the CRIS.

Overview of CRIS Work and Overview of the Plan, by Nicola Pinson, HMA

- Nicola reviewed the plan with Tribal Representatives

- Comment Tribe: Emphasis on need for a “payer blind” system that ensures coverage for Tribal members regardless of coverage type. Tribal members covered by Medicaid Fee-for-Service program encounter barriers to care if a provider does not accept Medicaid FFS and the Tribal member is not able to obtain timely approval of coverage through the Medicaid managed care program.
- Response: Thank you for your feedback. Our teams will incorporate your feedback into the CRIS Plan.

Next Steps:

- CRIS Committee and draft report, please contact Nicola Pinson at npinson@healthmanagement.com, or are welcome to contact anyone at DOH/HCA including Tribal liaisons and leaders.
- Additional feedback and support will be accepted until December 22, 2023, when we can close out consultation. A DTLL for Consultation Close out will be sent out shortly.

Closing Words:

No Tribal leadership closing statements.

Lacy Fehrenbach: Thanked everyone for the wonderful discussion and thanked Tribal Elected Officials and Tribal Health Leaders for their participation in the Consultation and throughout the Tribal 988 Subcommittee and RT Process.

Sue Birch: We look forward to our future work on the 2025 (final) report update through the Tribal 988 Subcommittee, Tribal Centric BH Advisory Board.

Meeting Adjourned by: Aren Sparck, Office of Tribal Affairs Administrator