

CRIS Updates (April 2024)

HB 1477 Committee Updates

The CRIS is meeting on April 18, 2024, 10:00am-4:00pm *in person* in Spokane, Washington at the Spokane Convention Center. The meeting will also be accessible by Zoom for members planning to participate virtually. Committee members will have the opportunity to visit with Frontier Behavioral Health staff to learn about their 988 contact center and full continuum of crisis care services, followed by a lunch panel focused on behavioral health crisis in rural and agricultural communities, and the CRIS Committee public meeting 1-4pm for a continued discussion of system performance metrics. Below is a summary of April Subcommittee meetings:

Date	Subcommittee	Topics of Focus
April 8	Lived Experience Subcommittee	Substance Use Disorders and Crisis Response
April 17	Tribal 988 Subcommittee	Input on system performance metrics follow up

2024 Legislative Updates

The April Newsletter is focused on legislative updates from the 2024 legislative session. Updates on state agency crisis system implementation efforts will continue in the May newsletter.

Crisis Response	SB 6308 – Extending timelines for implementation of the 988 system. Extends when the technology platform that is being developed by DOH by 18 months, from July 1, 2024, to January 1, 2026. Extends the duration of the CRIS through December 31, 2026. SB 6251 – Regional Crisis Response Coordination. Requires BH-ASOs to establish comprehensive protocols, with support from HCA and DOH, for dispatching mobile rapid response and community-based crisis teams within each regional service area.
Tribal Efforts	HB 1877 – An act relating to improving the Washington state behavioral health system for better coordination and recognition with the Indian behavioral health system. SB 6099 – Creating the tribal opioid prevention and treatment account. HB 2075 – Concerning licensing of Indian health care providers as establishments.
Substance Use Disorders	SB 6228 – Concerning treatment of substance use disorders and workforce training. HB 1956 – Fentanyl and other substance use prevention education. SB 2112 – Opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness at institutions of higher education. SB 5906 – Implementing a statewide drug overdose prevention and education campaign. HB 2396 – relating to fentanyl and other synthetic opioids: standards for public awareness campaigns; decontaminating motor vehicles; providing individuals with information on substance use disorder treatment programs.
Children, Youth, and Families	SB 5853 – Extending the crisis relief center model to provide behavioral health crisis services for minors. HB 1929 – Supporting young adults following inpatient behavioral health treatment. HB 2256 – Modifies membership and requirements for the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group (Work Group). Delays the deadline for the work group Strategic Plan Advisory Group to submit a draft strategic plan.

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Behavioral Health Workforce	HB 2247 – Addressing behavioral health provider shortage. Changes licensing requirements, practice settings, and reimbursement requirements for various behavioral health professions. HB 2088 – Extending liability protections for responders dispatched from mobile rapid response crisis teams and community-based crisis teams. HB 1939 – adopting the social work license compact.
Treatment and Supports	SB 5920 – Lifting certificate of need requirements for psychiatric hospitals and beds. SB 5588 – Concerning the mental health sentencing alternative.
Individuals with Lived Experience	HB 1541 – Nothing About Us Without Us Act. Relating to increasing access and representation in policy making processes for people with direct lived experience.