

"It's only as good as it gets used, so we are building value through stakeholder involvement."

—Allison Wedin, Crisis System Supervisor

NASMHPD

## TTI 2021 STATE BED REGISTRY PROFILE: **WASHINGTON**

### Current Approach and Need for Change

In 2020, Congress passed the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act requiring states to launch a national hotline number, 988, by July 16, 2022. In 2021, the Washington state legislature passed House Bill 1477 (HB 1477) to take advantage of the 988 designation to improve the state's behavioral health crisis system. HB1477 establishes a Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee (CRISC) to plan for implementation of the 988 crisis hotline and crisis response system enhancements, required the Department of Health (DOH) and Health Care Authority (HCA) to collaborate to establish state crisis call center hubs and an enhanced crisis response system, and imposed a tax on radio access lines, voice-over internet protocol service lines, and switched access lines to fund activities. Figure 1 depicts the broad scope of HB1477 and the complexity of coordinating the many components of a comprehensive and interoperable crisis response system.<sup>1</sup>

Among the requirements of HB1477, DOH and HCA must establish a system that tracks real-time bed availability for behavioral health crisis services including crisis stabilization, triage facilities, psychiatric inpatient, substance use disorder inpatient, withdrawal management, peer-run respite centers, and crisis respite services, inclusive of both voluntary and involuntary beds.

Having conducted stakeholder meetings and interviews with other states and vendors about crisis bed registry programs, HCA and DOH are making plans for the next step in procuring a registry platform and anticipate launching the system within the next two years (by July 2024).

(continued) ►

## Planning Partners

Final plans for the crisis bed registry fall to the Steering Committee of CRISC, represented by diverse stakeholders. The Technology Subcommittee of CRISC is tasked with exploring and recommending options for information systems and is comprised of technology and communication experts representing law enforcement and medical first responders, managed care and administrative care organizations, hospitals, behavioral health and crisis service providers, and 988 and 911 call systems. To design a system with value for its users, stakeholders, including persons with lived experience and tribal representatives, were engaged in a series of meetings in 2021. DOH and HCA plan to continue involving stakeholders in the implementation of the registry at every step to build ownership and showcase the value of the tool.

## Type of Bed Registry

HCA is exploring platforms that allow users to search for available crisis and behavioral health beds, capture information about the types of services provided, and to make and close electronic referrals.

## Crisis System Beds To Be Included in the Registry

- Ambulatory detoxification centers
- Crisis stabilization (<24-hour)
- Substance use disorder inpatient
- Crisis stabilization (>24-hours)
- Substance use disorder residential
- Crisis respite including peer-run
- Voluntary and involuntary inpatient treatment
- Community residential beds

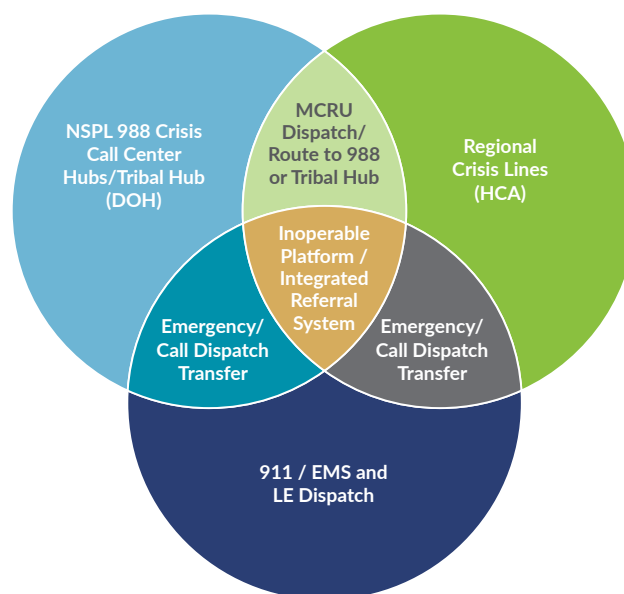
## Registry Development Vendor

A vendor has not been selected.

## Access to the Registry

Access has not been determined at this time.

FIGURE 1: SCOPE OF STATE LAW HB1477



## Refresh Rate and Entry Process

Policy decisions on the frequency with which bed availability information will be required to be updated have not been made.

## Meaningful Metrics

Metrics have not been identified.

## Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the Bed Registry

None reported.

## System Oversight

The system will be overseen by HCA as defined in the technical and operational plan and recommendations from the CRIS committee.

For more information contact Allison Wedin at [allison.wedin@hca.wa.gov](mailto:allison.wedin@hca.wa.gov).

<sup>1</sup> For a more thorough description of the requirements of the legislation see FINAL BILL REPORT E2SHB 1477. <https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/1477-S2.E%20HBR%20FBR%2021.pdf?q=20220622145520> or the actual legislation at <https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/1477-S2.SL.pdf?q=20220622145520>