

As a volunteer of our nation's oldest volunteer-answered suicide hotline, I am voicing my **opposition** to the FCC's recommendation that 211 be utilized as the three digit number dedicated to suicide hotlines.

When callers reach out to us, they are looking specifically for crisis or suicide intervention; when they access 211, they are looking specifically for information or referrals. Those are two very different things. While sometimes they overlap, this could create barriers to how quickly and effectively people access crisis services, as well as fundamentally change how we, as an organization, serve callers.

Using 211 goes against SAMHSA's recommendations. I encourage considering 988 as a viable alternative.