I strongly support adopting a 3 digit number specifically for individuals at risk of suicide. It should be linked to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline) network and provide the necessary financial support for its implementation and increased call volume.

The skills and oversight needed to help callers at risk of suicide (and concerned loved ones) are extremely different than those needed to provide linkage to food, shelter, legal aid, etc. Not to mention, the Lifeline requires members to be accredited in suicide prevention and requires specific staff training in suicide assessment and safety planning.