

# 17 cents per Minnesotan, per year to save Crisis Connection



Support [HF501/SF776](#)

## Crisis Connection Facts

- HF 501/SF776, authored by [Rep. Kelly Fenton](#) and [Sen. Karin Housley](#), requests \$969,000 (17 cents per Minnesotan, per year) for Canvas Health Crisis Connection phone lines.
- Without state funding, Crisis Connection will close, and phone calls will go unanswered or will be redirected to already overloaded law enforcement and hospital emergency rooms.
- Crisis Connection's services are free, confidential, and easily accessible to all Minnesotans.
- Trained counselors triage, stabilize, and assist callers in reaching a place of emotional and physical safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- All Minnesota calls to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline are answered by Crisis Connection.
- All crisis counselors are certified in ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training).
- Since 1969, the Crisis Connection phone numbers have been a part of the culture of crisis support in the state, with calls coming from individuals, families, first responders, United Way 211, and 911 call operators. Since its inception, Crisis Connection has operated with no consistent revenue stream.

In 2017, Crisis Connection received more than 52,000 calls from Minnesotans struggling with mental illness, loneliness, and addiction, as well as those at risk of harming themselves or others.

## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

- Contact your legislators ask them to support HF501/SF776 in the 2018 Session at 17 cents per Minnesotan, per year so Crisis Connection can continue operating and serving Minnesota. Find legislator contact information here: <https://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc?id=47>
- Write a letter to the editor of your local paper explaining your reasons for supporting the funding and encouraging your legislator to support HF501/SF776.
- Follow [Canvas Health's website](#) and [social media](#) for updates. Share updates and information with your networks, and encourage them to support the bill.