

~ Faces from the Land ~



Faces from the Land: A Photographic Journey Through Native America is a traveling exhibition documenting Native American powwow dancers in the U.S. and Canada. The exhibit—at the Museum at Warm Springs this summer—is the



creation of Ben and Linda Marra, featuring 36 of Ben Marra's large color portraits of powwow dancers, accompanied by personal written narratives, composed by the subject, compiled by Linda, describing the tribal significance of their regalia and dance.

Prevention Lifeline starting Saturday

The Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board suicide prevention project—called Tribal Health-Reaching out InVolves Everyone, or THRIVE—has partnered with the Indian Health Services, tribes and tribal organizations across Indian Country. Together, they are developing the 988 direct 3-digit mental health emergency resource.

The 988 number will be available starting this Saturday, July 16. This new service is especially important across Indian Country.

Why do we need 988?

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native youth ages 10-24.

Native communities experience the highest rates of suicide amongst all racial and ethnic groups in the U.S., and suicide rates among American Indian and Alaska Native communities rose by 118 percent between 1999 and 2017.

Suicide is preventable. 988 is one step in the direction of saving lives. This early intervention can reduce the burden on 911 and hospital services. 988 will move mental health and substance use services out of the shadows and into the mainstream; it will send a message that healing and getting help are normal and important parts of life.

What is 988?

988 is a direct three-digit line to trained National Suicide Prevention Lifeline crisis counselors that will go live this Saturday, July 16.

With an easy to remember 3-digit number, the Lifeline hopes to reach many more people in emotional



When you've got a police, fire or rescue emergency, you call 911. When you have a mental health emergency, you call or text 988.

crisis. This service is provided free of charge to the caller.

Any person of any age can call or text 988. Services will be available 24/7, year round. They will include a text option, translation services for non-English speakers, accessible options for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, and services for minors.

How will this affect our community?

The impact of 988 will vary from community to community. If your community has reliable phone and 911 services, it will now have access to 988, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Community members will be able to receive confidential services during mental health emergencies with minimal involvement of police or hospitals.

If you live in an area where connecting to 911 is difficult, you may experience

the same with 988. Please know that chatting via the prevention program website suicidepreventionlifeline.org, texting NATIVE to the Crisis Text Line at 741741, or texting 988 when available in July may be the best ways to connect in this communities.

What happens when you call, or text, 988?

You will be connected with a trained crisis worker from a local crisis center. Wait times are anticipated to be under one minute. The caller can talk about any emotional crisis, not just suicide.

The crisis worker will use active listening to assess risk, determine if a person is in danger, and assist the person in feeling better and accessing resources.

If the crisis worker believes the caller is in danger, he or she will work with the caller to care a safety plan that does not require calling emergency services.

Less than 3 percent of calls result in dispatching 911 services.

If you are calling about a friend or family member who is in distress, the person on the phone will walk you through how to help and provide resources.

NCAI response to Supreme Court ruling

The U.S. Supreme Court, in a recent 5-4 decision, overturned the long-held understanding that states do not have authority to prosecute non-Indians who commit crimes against Indians in Indian country. The Court, in *Castro-Huerta v. Oklahoma*, held that "the federal government and the state have concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute crimes committed by non-Indians against Indians in Indian country," which strikes against tribal sovereignty and jurisdiction to protect tribal citizens. The con-

sequences of the decision for tribal nations, the federal government, and states will take time to unravel.

"The Supreme Court's decision today is an attack on tribal sovereignty and the hard-fought progress of our ancestors to exercise our inherent sovereignty over our own territories," said National Congress of American Indians president Fawn Sharp.

"It was only a few months ago that Congress loudly supported tribal sovereignty and tribal criminal

jurisdiction with the passage of the Violence Against Women's Act, reaffirming the right of tribal nations to protect their own people and communities, but make no mistake, the Supreme Court has dealt a massive blow to tribal sovereignty and Congress must, again, respond."

John Echohawk, executive director of the Native American Rights Fund, agreed:

"Unauthorized and unconsented intrusions on tribal sovereignty are antithetical to tribal sovereignty and tribal treaty rights."

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