



THE COORDINATING CENTER  
INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

**Committee:** House Health and Government Committee

**Bill Number:** House Bill 293

**Hearing Date:** February 2, 2022

**Position:** Support

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The Coordinating Center strongly supports *House Bill 293 – Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund*. This bill will move Maryland forward in obtaining federal funds for implementation of a 9-8-8 system by creating a special fund for the program.

The 9-8-8 system will allow Marylanders to access behavioral health services by using an easy-to-remember three-digit number. With so many more Marylanders facing behavioral health issues because of the pandemic, we need to make it as easy as possible for people to connect to resources that will help them avert crises.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at [stiffin@policypartners.net](mailto:stiffin@policypartners.net).