

# Reprinted from October 17: “What are the alternatives to calling the police?”

The Bethlehem Gadfly George Floyd killing December 3, 2020

*Carrie who called in to City Council Tuesday night to support the police and to oppose defunding, gave the phone numbers of the county crisis intervention folk as alternatives to police for those who choose.*

*Northampton: 610-252-9060*

*Lehigh: 610-782-3127*

*Ironically, the “police abolitionist” at the NCC conference in October suggested that counties have a poster of important numbers to distribute to residents.*

*Seemed to Gadfly a good idea.*

*Do we have one? If not, who would do one?*

 *Latest in a series of posts in the wake of the George Floyd murder*



## **The 2020 NCC Peace and Social Justice Conference**

**Police-Free Future panel, October 15, 2020**

video

Remember what we're doing here in this string of posts.

We're taking our time and listening to a police abolitionist. Hearing his case. So we can know it and have an informed opinion about it.

Crazy, right? Who else does this kind of thing?

in this section of his presentation, PV suggests that we ask ourselves what already exists in our town in lieu of calling the police.

So that the police or 911 is not necessarily the first place we call in certain circumstances.

And then that we put a list together.

Such as you see here below.

And put it on the fridge or home bulletin board.

And put the numbers in our phones.

And then these places would be targets for reallocated money from the police department budget.

Gadfly wonders if such a list is already available for Bethlehem/Northampton County. Anybody know?

*Resources by city*

MINNEAPOLIS & HENNEPIN COUNTY  
**RESOURCES LIST**

**SOCIAL SERVICES**



**United Way 2-1-1** provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. Available 24/7 for crisis and non-emergency situations.

**The Sexual Violence Center** supports everyone affected by sexual violence. 24-hour crisis line: 612-871-5111

**Tubman** provides family violence safety planning. 24-hour crisis and resource line: 612-825-0000.

**Minnesota Warmline** provides a safe, anonymous and confidential phone and text service for people working on their mental health recovery. Call Mon-Sat, 5-10 PM: 651-288-0400 or text "Support" to 85511

**St. Stephen's** provides street outreach, shelter, and supportive housing. More info online: [ststephensmpls.org](http://ststephensmpls.org)

**MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**Mobile crisis teams\***  
Adults, 18 and older:  
COPE - 612-596-1223



Children, ages 17 and younger:

# ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING THE POLICE

Talking Peter Vanougenneit



## When You Need Help Now:

Make a list of trusted neighbors' phone numbers!

If you need professionals:

A big list of alternative #s:

[www.dontcallthepolice.com/minneapolis](http://www.dontcallthepolice.com/minneapolis)

Printable resource list for your wallet or fridge!

[www.mpd150.com/resources](http://www.mpd150.com/resources) (bottom of the page)

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Narcan (naloxone)** is a medication used to stop heroin or other opiate overdose. Anyone can get Narcan without a prescription at **Red Door** for themselves, friends or family members: Health Services Building, 525 Portland Ave, 4th Floor in downtown Minneapolis; 612-543-5555.

**MN Poison Control System** Call 1-800-222-1222 for all poison emergencies and questions. Poison experts are available 24/7.

**Minneapolis 311** provides information about City services (need to report a pothole? lost cat? etc.) Call 311 or 612-673-3000.

## MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY

**Mobile crisis teams\***  
Adults, 18 and older:  
COPE - 612-596-1223



Children, ages 17 and younger:  
Child Crisis - 612-348-2233

\*they may choose to send police

**Crisis Text Line** free help across the state; text MN to 741 741

**Trans Lifeline:** anonymous and confidential. If in crisis, they will not call police unless you want them to: 877-565-8860

**National Suicide Hotline:** 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones: 1-800-273-8255



## PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ABOLITION

**What are other ways we can imagine a police-free world?** What actions can we take now, to build this future?

- **Get to know and talk to your neighbors.** Reach out to a trusted community member.
- **Take a first aid and/or CPR class.** Check out Minneapolis Community Education or the YWCA for low-cost options.
- **Pods and pod-mapping worksheet:** who are the pods of people you would call on if you've been harmed, caused harm, or witnessed harm? More at [bit.ly/PodsResource](http://bit.ly/PodsResource)
- Learn more about **transformative justice** at [TransformHarm.org](http://TransformHarm.org), a resource hub about ending violence.