

The Case for abolishing the police (6): “What are the alternatives to calling the police?”

[The Bethlehem Gadfly](#) [George Floyd killing](#) October 17, 2020

 *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?

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

MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY

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



Children, ages 17 and younger:

ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING THE POLICE



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

Printable resource list for your wallet or fridge!
www.mpd150.com/resources (bottom of the page)

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Narcan (nalozone) 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.

The Bethlehem Gadfly

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
- Learn more about **transformative justice** at TransformHarm.org, a resource hub about ending violence.