About MCES:

MCES is a nonprofit organization founded in 1974. Our services are licensed by the PA Department of Human Services and accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC).

MCES’s founding mission was to divert persons with serious mental illness from criminal justice contact and the risk of incarceration by providing crisis intervention, evaluation, and treatment.

Our programs include adult inpatient psychiatric care, a crisis residential program (Carol’s Place), and a psychiatric emergency medical service (EMS).

We have offered crisis intervention training to police officers, other criminal justice and public safety personnel, and emergency responders since 1976.

We provide information about suicide prevention and suicide loss support to the community.

About 988:

MCES has been a member of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network since 2014. We respond to calls to 988 from Area Codes in southeastern Pennsylvania 24/7.

We believe that making help available and accessible as early and easily as possible promotes autonomy, enhances recovery and resilience, and significantly reduces the need for inpatient psychiatric care.

988 connects anyone in any type of behavioral health crisis with phone-based intervention as well as in-home mobile crisis response or in-center services as needed.
The MCES Crisis Department provides 24/7 crisis intervention services to adults (age 18 and over) experiencing or at risk of serious mental health crises or potentially life threatening psychiatric emergencies. We also serve and support family members, providers, and others seeking help for someone in a crisis situation.

We promote client self-determination, hope, and empowerment. Services are person-centered, trauma sensitive, recovery-oriented, strength-based, and build personal coping skills. Services are as brief as possible and enhance community living.

Our crisis intervention services are available on a walk-in basis at our crisis center or by phone through our crisis hot line.

Our services include:

- Information about mental illness, substance abuse, and other needs
- Assistance with involuntary psychiatric evaluations for persons felt to be a danger to self/others
- Walk-in/call-in crisis screening and assessment
- Walk-in/call-in supportive crisis counseling
- Psychiatric evaluations to determine need for inpatient psychiatric care
- Aiding police officers in safely resolving mental health calls
- Arranging inpatient or residential mental health care as necessary
- Coordinating MCES ambulance transport of patients from EDs to MCES and other facilities

We accept referrals from, and we refer to, other crisis services, hospital emergency departments, outpatient behavioral health providers, adult, adolescent, older adult inpatient psychiatric facilities, substance use treatment services, criminal justice agencies, and other community resources.

As appropriate on a case-by-case basis, we work to divert persons in crisis from psychiatric hospitalization and with police departments to divert persons with criminal justice contact due to psychiatric symptoms from possible incarceration.

Crisis services are provided at no cost under contract with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Emergency psychiatric evaluations are covered by most insurers.