# About Deaf MERID

#### AN OVERVIEW OF OUR SERVICES

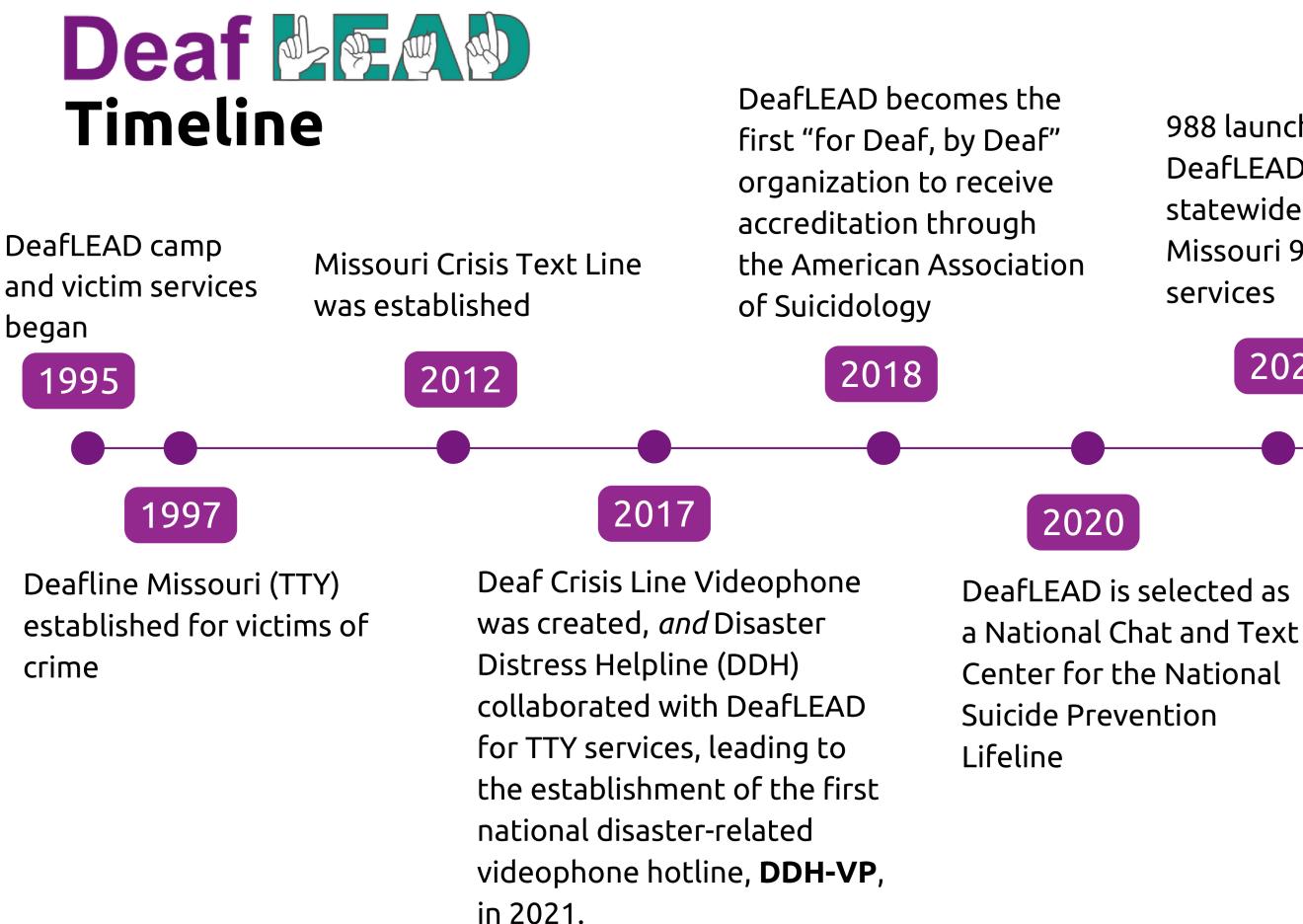




# Deaf weight

We provide 24/7 crisis intervention, advocacy, case management, interpreting, and mental health support services to victims of crime who are Deaf, hard of hearing, DeafBlind, and late-deafened individuals and their families. We also lend our expertise to victim service providers individuals and organizations alike—in ensuring that their services for crime victims with hearing loss are culturally and linguistically appropriate.





988 launched and DeafLEAD became the statewide provider of Missouri 988 chat and text services



2023

Along with Vibrant Emotional Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, **DeafLEAD** launched the National 988 Videophone for all ASL users!

# Victim Advocacy Services

- Assist clients in advocating for their rights and needs
  - Legal advocacy
  - Medical advocacy
  - Personal advocacy
- Ensure victims receive a support system that is culturally competent
- DeafLEAD provides educational training for shelter and service providers
- Missouri-based (can provide assistance/referral to those who do not reside in MO)



# **TCTSY:** Trauma Center Trauma Sensitive Yoga



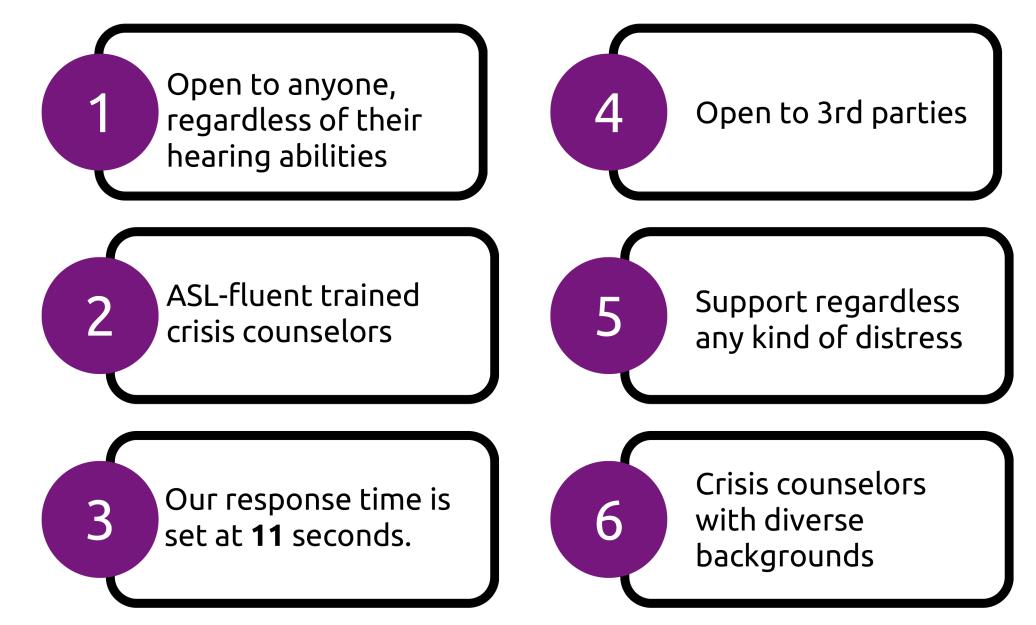
- TCTSY is a body-based therapy using traditional hatha style-yoga movements
- Focuses on empowerment, choice, and individual body relationship, prioritizing personal autonomy in participation
- Open to DeafLEAD staff & all victims of trauma and their families (at no cost)

#### www.DeafLEAD.org/services/tctsy

## 24/7/365 Videophone Crisis Lines

DeafLEAD is proud to offer 24/7/365 crisis intervention services through three nationwide videophone lines.

Our trained crisis counselors are fluent in American Sign Language, ensuring effective communication and support for those who need it most.





### Deaf Crisis Line

The Deaf Crisis Line offers emotional support and resources to Deaf survivors of past or present emotional, physical, or sexual abuse.

To access this resource, click the **"DCL NOW"** button at www.DeafLEAD.org or dial 321-800-3323 on videophone.



### **Disaster Distress Helpline- Videophone**

The Disaster Distress Videophone Helpline provides emotional and psychological support to those affected by any natural or human-caused disasters in the US and its territories.

To access this resource, dial 1-800-985-5900 on videophone or click the "DDH ASL NOW" button at www.DeafLEAD.org.



## 988 Videophone & Chat/Text

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a service that offers support to individuals experiencing suicidal thoughts, ideation, capability, intent, or any other crisis.

To access this resource, please text 988, dial "988" on your videophone, or visit www.DeafLEAD.org and select the **"988 ASL NOW"** button. You can also chat at 988lifeline.org.

### Three Videophone Crisis Line Platform Sample Video

## **CRISIS LINE PLATFORM**

### CRISIS COUNSELOR'S POINT OF VIEW

Click for video --> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sAfzycvvFc</u>

# **Crisis Interpreting**

- Provide a stop gap to aid people in crisis until a local interpreter is found and available to assist
- Use trauma-sensitive techniques to replace intense signs with neutral ones
- Goal is to mitigate retraumatizing the survivor
- Training in trauma-informed and mental health interpreting is available in-person or via Zoom. Customized training options are offered to meet specific needs.



# **Stories & Statistics**

- "I am definitely feeling better thanks to you, I'm feeling in a better place then I was prior, you have helped me a lot and I really appreciate it, I'm going to keep taking baby steps and hopefully one day I'll be able to move past this rough patch"
- "Thank you for everything you've done tonight. I've texted/called crisis lines a couple times before, and I left pissed off at how robotic/apathetic the interactions were. This is my first good experience with a crisis line. Thank you for having compassion"
- 988 VP launched September of 2023: 100 calls first month. April 2024: 3,800 VP calls (in a single month)

# You Are Not Alone.

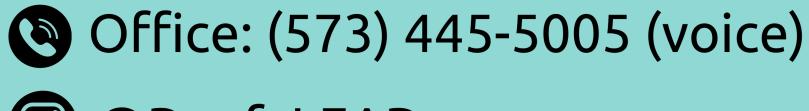
#### OUR HOTLINES ARE ALWAYS OPEN. 24/7/365.







## Let's Connect!









www.DeafLEAD.org



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**"THANK YOU** 

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