

NZSL FACTS

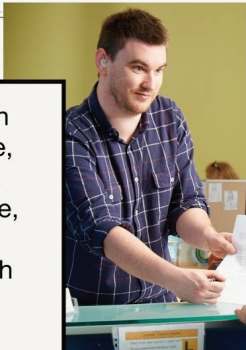


NZSL FACTS

How Deaf people can get through emergencies



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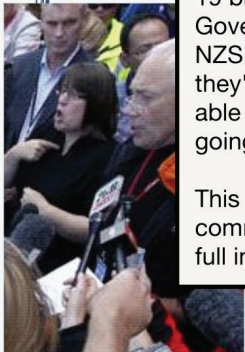


Emergencies are tough and scary for everyone, but for many Deaf and Hard of Hearing people, this can present extra barriers, especially with communication and getting information.

Here, we will highlight SOME of the services and equipment we can use to get through emergencies.



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INTERPRETERS ON TV

During national emergencies, e.g. COVID-19 briefings from the Government, we can watch NZSL interpreters (when they're placed) on TV to be able to understand what's going on.

This ensures the Deaf community gets access to full information in NZSL.



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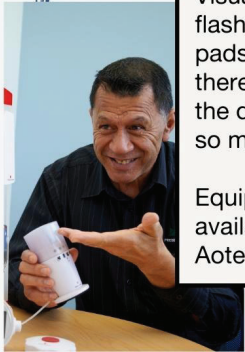
SUBTITLES OR AUTOMATIC CAPTIONS

On live news, on TV or online, there will most often be live or automatic captioning available. While the captions can be delayed and not always correct, it is still a useful tool.

Turn on the subtitle feature on your TV or device (if applicable) to be able to have captions.



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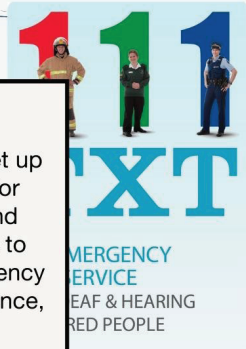
DEAF EQUIPMENT

There are a wide range of equipment we can use. Visual smoke alarms, flashing lights, vibrating pads to alert us when there's a fire, someone at the door, baby crying and so much more.

Equipment like this can be available from Deaf Aotearoa or DeafQuip.



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111 TEXT

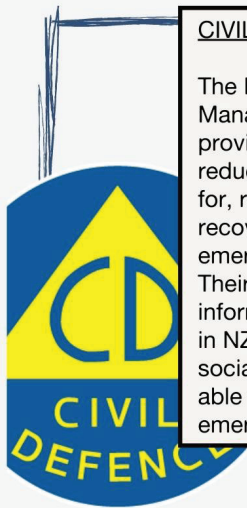
This service has been set up by New Zealand Police for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and speech-impaired people to be able to text to emergency services (Police, Ambulance, Fire).

This service is not for the general public, so to be able to use 111 Text, you'd need to register on the Police website.



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CIVIL DEFENCE

The National Emergency Management Agency provides leadership in reducing risk, being ready for, responding to and recovering from emergencies. Their website is full of information, including some in NZSL videos. Follow their social media online to be able to follow updates on emergencies.



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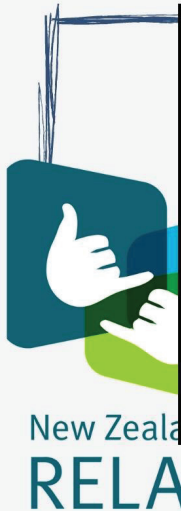


LET'S TALK - 25 SIGNS TO LEARN FOR EMERGENCIES

We have recently launched our new Let's Talk - Emergencies booklet! The booklet has common NZSL signs in photos and drawings, it's also in English and Te Reo Māori, so you can learn and use for emergencies. It's available in paper or online format. Video resources also available.



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NZ RELAY SERVICE

New Zealand Relay is a free, government-funded service for people who are Deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, and speech impaired.

Text relay, Video Interpreting Service, Captioned Relay, TTY with voice carry-over etc service are available to use



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SOURCES

iSign (for interpreter bookings)
isign.co.nz

DeafQuip
deafquip.co.nz

Civil Defence/National Emergency Management
civildefence.govt.nz

NZ Police
police.govt.nz/111-txt

NZ Relay
nzrelay.co.nz



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