2024 Social Impact Report
Descriptive Text

[Description of Section 1: Screen is split into two sections.

Left side has solid navy background with all-caps text, “2024 Social Impact Report,” “2024” being teal and the remaining text white. The button leading to this document is in white text with white outline on navy, and a thin pink backdrop.

On the right are 4 animated graphics placed in two rows of squares. The upper left square has the number “5” flashing on and off. The upper right square has the Deaf Organizations Fund (DOF) logo fading in and out. The bottom left square has a contiguous U.S. map and the number “24” in gray moving upward inside the map. The bottom right square has an animated illustration of hands signing in ASL, “champ.”]

[Description of Section 2: This section has a white background. On the right side of the text is an image of Sasha, a brown woman with long wavy brown hair wearing a light blue dress. There is a coral pink dome behind her. Curved text following the right side of the dome in bold navy blue reads “Sasha L. Ponappa.” Smaller bold teal text underneath the image reads “Executive Director.” At the bottom of this section’s text is pink cursive font that appears like a signature, and it reads, “-Sasha”.]

Text:

Section Title: Letter from Leadership

Friends,

Four years and five funding cycles completed: what a journey we’ve been on. Deaf Organizations Fund (DOF) would not be where we are today without the dedicated support of our parent organization, Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD). We have also been sustained by the contributions of 485 individual and corporate donors investing in our mission thus far. These supporters have helped us raise nearly $357K in a few short years.

I’m filled with hope as we prepare to award grants to our latest cohort in 2025, especially as I reflect on the previous year.

In 2024, our 5th grantee cohort experienced DOF's first-ever unrestricted funding opportunity, the Impact Grant for Deaf Organizations. They journeyed on the path of this newer trust-based approach to grantmaking with us, and we are grateful to these organizations for their feedback and partnership.

It's an honor to share our 2024 grantees' project accomplishments with you.

Atomic Hands: Produced four ASL storybooks and two mini-courses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), engaging and supporting deaf youth, teachers in deaf education, ASL interpreters, and those who learn best via visual means. Two storybooks have been published, with the remaining storybooks and mini-courses slated for distribution in 2025.

Deaf Equity: Hosted over 10 accessible community events in Minnesota; such events gave people unique opportunities to connect and hold space for the diverse array of cultural and disability identities within their communities, and led to increased attendance by DeafBlind community members.

DEAF, Inc.: Their Pink Wings of Hope program produced eight accessible videos on cancer, aiming to reducing severe barriers to complex healthcare information impacting deaf communities everywhere.

Deaf Spotlight: Hired an Operations Director to support internal operations ranging from grant activities, volunteer coordination, and office logistics, enabling the organization to provide more arts programming for members of deaf communities.

HEARD: Disseminated 500+ surveys to deaf/disabled people experiencing incarceration nationwide; the resulting data is helping the organization prioritize their advocacy efforts to center the needs of impacted communities.

Off-The-Grid Missions: Expanded infrastructure to better position the organization's ability to adapt and respond in future crises; concurrently disseminated life-saving resources in high-risk and disaster-stricken regions including Lebanon, Haiti, Türkiye, Gaza, Syria, and the United States.

The work of deaf nonprofits and programs in service of our deaf communities is beyond measure and must be sustained. I also remain profoundly grateful for the support we receive from people like you. Please read on for what I am proud (and a little mindblown) to say is an overview of our first five funding cycles!

[Description of Section 3: This section has a light gray background. A horizontal timeline bar is in the center, split up into alternating colors of navy blue, pink, and dark teal. Each color segment has a triangular point in its center, with a line extending above or below the timeline arriving at a circle outlined in the same color on white background. The circles alternate positions – above or below – and begin with the year 2020, ending with the year 2024.]

Text:

Section Title: Five Funding Cycles and Milestones

Text on the timeline from left to right:

2020: GRANT #1 – COVID-19 Emergency Response Microgrant piloted by CSD receives an incredible community response

2021: CSD Unites Community Foundation is established along with an endowment fund

GRANT #2 – COVID-19 Resiliency Microgrant awards

2022: GRANT #3 – Capacity Building Grant awards

2023: Name changes to Deaf Organizations Fund in reflection of our mission; tax exempt status received

GRANT #4 – Capacity Building Grant awards

2024: GRANT #5 – Unrestricted Impact Grant for Deaf Organizations awards

Launch of Deaf Organizations and Programs Directory

[Description of Section 4: This section has a white background. In the center is a map of the continental U.S. with states outlined in white. States serviced by organizations providing nationwide services are colored in gray, with their state acronyms in navy blue text. States serviced by organizations providing regional services are colored in teal, with their state acronyms in white text.]

Text:

Section Title: Grantee Footprints

Text on left side of the map:

Nationwide Services:

-Asian Signers
-Atomic Hands
-Deaf Queer Resource Center
-Deaf Spotlight
-HEARD
-Health Signs Center
-National Black Deaf Advocates
-Off-The-Grid Missions
-Partners in Deaf Health
-Turtle Island Hand Talk

Text on right side of the map:

Regional Services:

-Arizona, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
-California, DeafHope
-Georgia, CaringWorks, Inc.
-Indiana, Indiana Association of the Deaf
-Massachusetts, Our Deaf Survivors Center, Inc. and The Learning Center for the Deaf, Inc.
-Michigan, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
-Minnesota, Deaf Equity
-Missouri, DEAF, Inc.,
-New York, Deaf Refugee Advocacy
-Pennsylvania, DeafCAN! - Christ the King Deaf Church
-Tennessee, Partnership for Families, Children and Adults
-Utah, Sego Lily Center for the Abused Deaf
-Washington, Northwest School for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children

[Description of Section 5: This section has a navy blue background with five rounded boxes in alternating shades of pink, dark teal, and light teal. Centered on each of these rounded boxes

are angular white rectangles with a triangular notch removed from the top. There is a large, bold number that appears at the top of each rounded box, and regular-weight, smaller text appearing inside each rectangle tied to the number shown above.]

Text:

Section Title: Five Facts Through Five Cycles

A row of five boxes with varying color backgrounds. Text appearing in each box from left to right:

-$397K in awards distributed to deaf-centric organizations & programs
-25% growth in applicants submitting grant proposals in ASL
-28 grant projects funded
-215 eligible grant applications received
-38% growth on income generated by our endowment fund

[Description of Section 6: This section has a light gray background with two YouTube video thumbnails displayed side by side. There are dark teal strips on the bottom of each video, with all-caps text in white. The left side video's bottom banner reads "What Do We Need?" while the right side video's bottom banner reads "What Do They Need?" The left side video has an undersaturated screengrab of Avi signing what appears to be the word "future." She's seated in front of a door. The right side video thumbnail has an undersaturated screengrab of Sasha signing what appears to be the word "will." She's seated on a brown couch in front of a navy blue wall with art and plants behind her.

WHAT DO WE NEED? Video link: https://youtu.be/oGQWe32Xe-I
HAT DO THEY NEED? Video link: https://youtu.be/eFiNd1ag0NQ

[Description of Section 7: This section has a white background. On the right next to the section text is an animated graphic with a navy circle in the center. On top of the circle are two coral hands with teal outline moving to indicate the ASL sign for "champ." To the left of the hands is all-caps text, "champ" repeated three times in a column in varying colors. There are numerous whiskers and lines surrounding the entire image, and they appear and disappear as the hands create the "champ" sign. Below the section text is a navy blue button that reads "Be a Champ" in white text.]

Text:

Section Title: 25 in 2025

We’re introducing our monthly giving program, Champions of Deaf Organizations, as a tangible and attainable way for people like you to sustain DOF’s work.

When you commit to a monthly gift, you commit to DOF’s success and growth. This type of consistent, predictable support is absolutely critical to our ability to plan for the future.

There’s so much more we can do to strengthen deaf nonprofits in the next 5 years.

Can you help us meet our goal of 25 Champions in 2025?

[Description of Section 8: This section has a light teal background with only the hands portion of DOF logo in white above the text.]

Text:

Together we envision a future in which deaf communities have access to a wide array of services provided by thriving, well-resourced organizations.

Thank you for joining with us to make this possible.