FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Miami University Partners with Crisis Text Line to Help Expand Free, 24/7 Mental Health Support for Students in Need

OXFORD, Ohio–(January 8, 2025)-- Miami University has partnered with <u>Crisis Text Line</u> to help spread mental health awareness and to support students in their time of need. Crisis Text Line is a nonprofit organization that provides free, 24/7, confidential text-based mental health support in both English and Spanish. Students in the Miami University community seeking support can text MUHOPE to 741741 to reach a live, volunteer Crisis Counselor.

Crisis Text Line's text-based service supports people of all ages but was specifically created for young people, allowing for on-demand support through text message – a medium most people use and trust.

"Not all students are comfortable chatting face-to-face, via video conferencing, or on the telephone when they need help," said Jayne Brownell, senior vice president for the Division of Student Life. "Now MUHOPE gives students a convenient texting option for instant care to get students through until they can have a more in-depth conversation with someone in the Student Counseling Service."

Crisis Text Line's volunteer Crisis Counselors provide support for individuals facing various challenges, including stress, anxiety, loneliness, isolation, difficult relationships, bullying, self-harm and suicidal thoughts.

"We are committed to supporting Miami University students as they navigate the challenges and opportunities of the school year," said Jana French, Director of Community Partnerships at Crisis Text Line. "Providing mental health services to students is essential because their well-being is the foundation for their academic success, personal growth and resilience."

Those seeking free, 24/7 confidential mental health support through Crisis Text Line can connect via text, web chat and WhatsApp in English and Spanish. To reach a live, trained volunteer Crisis Counselor, text MUHOPE or 443-SUPPORT in WhatsApp or to 741741 or 442-AYUDAME in WhatsApp for Spanish or connect with us via web chat.

About Miami University

Established in 1809, Miami University is consistently ranked among the top 50 national public universities by U.S. News & World Report for providing students with an Ivy League-quality education at a public school price. Located in quintessential college town Oxford, Ohio — with regional campuses in Hamilton and Middletown, a learning center in West Chester, and a European study center in Luxembourg — Miami serves more than 22,600 undergraduates across 100 areas of study, and more than 2,200 graduate students through 78 master's and doctoral degree programs. At this comprehensive research university, students engage and conduct research with premier teacher-scholars. Miami adds \$2.3 billion each year to Ohio's economy through innovative partnerships and job creation. Miami is a NCAA Division I school, serving more than 500 student-athletes across 19 varsity sports. For more information, visit MiamiOH.edu.

About Crisis Text Line

Crisis Text Line is a nonprofit organization that provides free, 24/7, confidential text-based mental health support in English and Spanish. Since its launch in 2013, we have supported over 10 million conversations in the United States and 14 million globally together with our affiliates in Canada, the UK and Ireland. Crisis Text Line's more than 75,000 trained volunteer Crisis Counselors bring texters from a hot moment to a cool calm through nonjudgmental support and empowers each texter to use their own strengths and coping strategies. We are committed to creating an empathetic world where nobody feels alone. Individuals seeking confidential support can connect with us via text, web chat and WhatsApp. To be connected to a live, trained nonjudgmental volunteer Crisis Counselor, text HELLO to 741741 or 443-SUPPORT in WhatsApp or text HOLA to 741741 or 442-AYUDAME in WhatsApp for Spanish or connect with us via web chat. Visit Crisis Text Line on Linkedin, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. Additional information, including how to become a volunteer or how to support Crisis Text Line through donations or partnerships, is available at www.crisistextline.org.

CONTACT:

Alecia Lipton

Associate Director of Media Relations

Miami University

liptona@miamioh.edu

Vanessa Showalter Senior Communications Director Crisis Text Line vshowalter@crisistextline.org