Deaf Awareness Day at Six Flags New England

CLW along with Stavros, MRC-Somerville and Department of Developmental Services (DDS), hosted the 21st Annual Deaf Awareness Day on August 6th at Six Flags New England with approximately 375 people in attendance. The turnout was good, even though there were several Deaf Community events on the same day. Those that came also attended an interpreted Magic Show, one of the various attractions at Six Flags.

This annual Six Flags event is an ongoing, important occasion for the Deaf Community to socialize and network informally. It also educates the general public about Deaf Awareness, as well as raises money for Educational Scholarships for Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing individuals. For more information about the scholarships: contact Joan Philip at jphilip@centerlw.org.

For more pictures see pages 10-11!

Worcester City Hall Tour and Mock City Council Meeting

On Thursday, August 18th, 2016, CLW collaborated with the City of Worcester’s Office on Disabilities to host the first City Hall Tour and Mock City Council Meeting for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals. Thanks to the great planning committee: Sue Philip, ODSC President; Joan Philip, CLW DHILS Director; Dawn Clark, Office on Disabilities Disability Intake Coordinator; Jayna Turchek, Esq., Office of Human Rights Director; Tony Economou, City Councilor; and Susan Ceccacci, Education Director of

(Continued on page 8)
Did you know?

Center for Living & Working, Inc. is an Authorized Representative for Harris Communications and CaptionCall.

Harris Communications sells assistive products for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Equipment includes: FM Systems, fire/safety alarms, doorbell alerts, baby crier/signalers, TV listening, loop systems and more!

CaptionCall is similar to captioned television and uses advanced technology and a communications assistant to provide nearly instant written captions of what callers say on a large, easy-to-read screen. It works like a regular telephone – simply dial and answer calls as usual – speak and listen using a phone handset like always. The captioning service is free. Captioning is provided by CaptionCall and paid through a fund administered by the Federal Communications Commission.

http://www.centerlw.org/services/specialized-telephone-equipment/

IF YOU NEED TO BUY ANY EQUIPMENT YOU CAN ORDER IT THROUGH US!

Want to get this newsletter in Your Email?

Let us know if you want to $AVE on mailing costs and save trees!

Register your email with CLW!

KWhite@CenterLW.org

If you want to receive the What’s Up newsletter in the mail let us know!

Contact Us!

Center for Living & Working, Inc.
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services Department
Videophone: 508-762-1164
Voice/TTY: 508-755-1003
www.CenterLW.org

Like us on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/CenterForLivingAndWorking
Save the Date!

This year's Consumer Holiday Party will be held on:

Wednesday, December 7th from 3-5pm
CLW—Denholm Building
484 Main Street, Suite 345, Worcester, MA

**INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU WHEN DETAILS ARE FINALIZED!**

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Upcoming Workshops

iPad Training  *  Crafts Class

Fliers will be mailed before each event.

**Stay tuned for more information!**

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CLW DHILS Staff

**Joan Philip, DHILS Program Director**
(JPhilip@centerlw.org)

**Joy Spurlin, Assistant DHILS Director**
and **Deaf Skills Trainer**
(CSpurlin@centerlw.org)

**Heidi Clemmey, Deaf Skills Trainer**
(HClemmey@centerlw.org)

**Ellen Perkins, Hard of Hearing Skills Trainer**
(EPerkins@centerlw.org)

**Kim White, Communication Facilitator**
(KWhite@centerlw.org)

**Katie Peirolo, Communication Facilitator**
(KPeirolo@centerlw.org)
MCDHH Budget Update

Keeping you informed; the MA Legislature voted during the override phase to restore $200,000 to the FY17 budget for MCDHH. The General Appropriations Act is in the process of being finalized. The FY17 funding allocation for MCDHH is the result of extensive, statewide, and highly visible input and advocacy from Deaf and Hard of Hearing constituents, family members, consumer organizations, and many other affiliates. Thank you for your very active participation throughout the important government process of developing our state budget.

The chart below records the milestones through which this budget evolved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>APPROPRIATION</th>
<th>MN</th>
<th>GOV</th>
<th>HWM</th>
<th>HOU</th>
<th>SWM</th>
<th>SEN</th>
<th>CON</th>
<th>GAA w/OVR</th>
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<td>5,411,403</td>
<td>5,611,403</td>
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<td>$5,661,403</td>
<td>$5,951,403</td>
<td>5,611,403</td>
<td>5,411,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAR</td>
<td>(169,148)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(200,000)</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>290,000</td>
<td>(340,000)</td>
<td>(200,000)</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-3.13%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>-5.7%</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking ahead in this new fiscal year, the MCDHH Statewide Advisory Council and Legislative Task Force will meet in the Boston office in September as listed below.

**Thursday, September 15 6:15-8:15:** Statewide Advisory Council

**Wednesday, September 21 6:15- 7:45:** Legislative Task Force

VRI Open Discussion Wrap Up & Next Steps

In July, Center for Living & Working, Inc. hosted the last “Open Dialogue about VRI” in Taunton, MA. The Task Force meeting in April, 2016 went well and the group came up with few possible ways to move forward.

It was decided that the next step will be to meet with other agencies (MCDHH, MSAD, DPH and others) to determine what each agency will focus on. We created a ‘Fact Sheet’ to help consumers know what to do if they are confronted with VRI issues again. This fact sheet has been shared with other Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Centers and will be revised to match their region. A meeting will be set up between CLW, Heidi Reed, Massachusetts Commissioner for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, and Andy Veith, President of Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf.

CLW will keep the community involved once a plan for action is set up.
Hanover Theater Provides Accessible Seating

The Hanover Theatre is committed to providing access and an enjoyable visit for persons of differing abilities.

When purchasing tickets, please be sure to mention if you require any special accommodations, including wheelchair accessible seating, visual or hearing impairment, limited mobility, etc.

For a list of shows and costs please go to:
http://thehanovertheatre.org/

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OneCare Ombudsman

The One Care Ombudsman (OCO) is an independent program that helps individuals, their significant others and representatives address concerns or conflicts that may interfere with their enrollment in One Care or their access to One Care benefits and services.

One Care Ombudsman
11 Dartmouth St. Ste. 301
Malden, MA 02148
1.855.781.9191 (711 - MassRelay)
Office 617.307.7775

Website: www.necareombuds.org   Email: help@onecareombuds.org

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Support Groups

ALDA Boston
Association of Late Deafened Adults
http://www.aldaboston.org/

HLAA Central Massachusetts
Hearing Loss Association of America
http://hearinglosscentralma.wordpress.com/
Email: HLACentralMA@aol.com
ODSC’s New Cultural Broker

Our Deaf Survivors Center’s (ODSC) board is very excited to announce that as of Monday, May 16th, Mary Bird is our new Cultural Broker. She will work with Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind people who are experiencing sexual and/or domestic violence, stalking or harassment. Cultural Brokers support and create access for survivors by collaborating with victim service agencies and programs. They offer training, consultation and/or support about using and getting certified American Sign Language interpreters or CART, as well as creating a Culturally Affirmative environment. The Cultural broker may attend meetings with the survivor and agencies to ensure communication access and a possible working relationship. The Cultural Broker is available to support the victim with sexual and domestic violence needs in hospitals, as well as law enforcement and court settings.

You can contact Mary Bird, Cultural Broker at cbodsc414@gmail.com or 978-451-7225 (VP).

DEAF and Hard of Hearing Parents Newsletter

DHILS has decided to start a separate “Parents” newsletter which will include resources and information dedicated to parenting and children. If you are a Deaf or Hard of Hearing parent and would like to receive that newsletter please contact your Skills Trainer or email Joan Philip at jphilip@centerlw.org.
**Reporting Wages for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

If you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and you or your deemor (e.g. your ineligible spouse or parent(s) with whom you live) work, then either you or your representative payee must report the gross wages to Social Security. You should consistently report wages during the first six days of the month to help prevent overpayments and underpayments.

Because SSI is a needs-based program for people who are aged, blind, or disabled, the amount you can receive is based, in part, on the income available to you. Generally, the more income available to you, the less the SSI payment will be.

You can report wages by visiting, calling or writing your local Social Security Office at https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp. You can ask about using the automated toll-free SSI Telephone Wage Reporting Service (https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/spotlights/spot-telephone-wage.htm) or the free SSI Mobile Wage Reporting Smartphone app.

If you want to report wages using our telephone service or Smartphone app, please contact your local Social Security office and speak to one of our representatives.

**Sign Up To Receive An E-mail Or Text Message Wage Reporting Reminder**

You can sign up online to receive a monthly e-mail or text message wage reporting reminder. To sign up online go to: https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/ssi-wage-reporting.html

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**Resource Corner**

**Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf**

has a new website!

[www.massdeaf.org](http://www.massdeaf.org)

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**Legal problems??**

established a **Reduced Fee Program** which handles various legal issues including bankruptcy, mortgage foreclosures, wills, divorces, custody and evictions.

For more information call: (508) 752-1311 and indicate you need an attorney through the Reduced Fee Program. Clients must fill out an application and fall within certain financial guidelines to be eligible.
Worcester City Hall (continued…)

Preservation Worcester; the tour and mock city council meeting were a success! About 15 Deaf and Hard of Hearing community members joined, including all of CLW’s DHILS Staff for this interpreted event. Docents (tour guides) from Preservation Worcester explained the history of the building and its architecture and monuments inside and out, as well as the different artifacts, photos and paintings displayed on each floor. They shared stories about what City Hall used to be like 200+ years ago and explained City Hall’s current offices/services too. We even toured the Mayor’s office, which still has the original design from when City Hall was built in 1898! After the tour, we all went into the Esther Howland Chamber room for the Mock City Council meeting. Many of us participated in the meeting as councilors, city residents, the city manager and city clerk, while Councilor Tony Economou acted as the Mayor who led the discussion and council vote on building a dog park in Worcester. It was fascinating to learn the City of Worcester’s council meeting process and how they propose and vote on various city issues! It was also great to learn how all Worcester residents can get involved in Worcester’s city government, and residents of other towns can get involved in their town’s government. When the mock city council meeting was over, several attendees finished off the fun day enjoying lunch on Worcester Common at the Out to Lunch Summer Concert Series & Farmers’ Markets.
Tony shows the group the “Key to the City” of Worcester.

CLW Staff Kim White was the City Manager.

CLW Staff Katie Peirolo & Ying Li were Councilmen.

The tour continued inside.
Introducing CLW’s new Deaf Skills Trainer: Heidi Clemmey

Heidi Clemmey comes from a Deaf family in Connecticut and is proud to share that she graduated from the American School for the Deaf, the oldest Deaf school in America; which will be celebrating their 200th anniversary next year, in 2017. Heidi’s passion for working in this field comes from her family, who are Human Resource professionals. After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work, Heidi got her first job in Boston at DEAF Inc. as an Independent Living Specialist. Heidi feels this job gave her such a rich experience because she was working with a variety of consumers and cultures. After receiving her MSW degree (Masters in Social Work degree) from Gallaudet University, Heidi began to work with young Deaf and Hard of Hearing students doing individual and group counseling. Heidi also worked as a Case Manager for the Department of Mental Health and as a Children Specialist with the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing. Working as a DHILS Skills Trainer at CLW is encouraging for Heidi because there is better communication access and resources available for Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers than there were when she started her career at DEAF, Inc. Heidi also continues to volunteer as an advocate with Deaf parents of Deaf/CODAs on the Autism spectrum to ensure that these children are receiving appropriate education and support services in their school system. She also continues to provide resources for Deaf families in Massachusetts through Family Ties (http://www.massfamilyties.org/) and through the Federation for Children with Special Needs (http://fcsn.org/). Heidi is also currently a Chairperson on the Outreach Committee of MA KODA.

Joint Consumer Conference Recap

The Annual Consumer Conference, “Building Careers...Building Lives” was held on June 23, 2016 at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. This event was co-hosted by: MA Rehab Commission, MA Commission for the Blind, MA Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and MA Statewide Independent Living Council. There was an exhibit hall with over twenty vendors showcasing resources, activities, involvement opportunities and assistive technology demonstrations.

After a Welcome Reception consumers and agency staff attended morning and afternoon workshops such as Mentoring for Career Success, Job Seeker’s Took Kit, Deaf/DeafBlind Self-Advocacy Training, and a Vocational Rehabilitation Focus Group for MRC Consumers.

There was a working luncheon with Keynote Speaker Janet L. LaBreck (former MCB Commissioner) who is currently the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), United States Department of Education.
Our Deaf Survivors Center hosts

2nd Annual Fundraising Gala

Keynote speaker: Erin Esposito
Deaf Survivor of childhood sexual abuse & domestic violence
Executive Director, Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims (ASADV)

Theme: Celebrating Awareness and Expansion
Date: Friday, October 21, 2016
Time: 6:00pm to 11:00pm
Location: Sheraton Framingham Hotel & Conference Center
1657 Worcester, Road, Framingham, MA 01701

Reception * Dinner * Performance and LIVE and SILENT AUCTIONS
EMCEE’s: Greg Paris & Ivy Velez

Deadline to purchase tickets: October 11, 2016 (postmarked)
For Credit Card Payments go to: http://www.odscunity.org
Use the PayPal button to pay

Voice Interpreters & CART Reporter will be provided
For Deafblind: Communication requests—deadline October 7, 2016—contact Lorna Laferriere at 413-304-2413 or laffylrlr@aol.com

Fill out and mail check to: ODSC, P.O. Box 2276, Worcester, MA 01613-2276
Name:__________________________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________________
Email address: ________________________________
Choice of meal: Chicken □  Vegetarian □  Any food allergies? ___________________________

Any questions, contact Julie Proud-Ray at: odscfundraising@gmail.com
Deaf Awareness Day at Six Flags New England

(Top) Kim White, Joan Philip and Betty Filipkowski
(Bottom) Dustin and Katie Peirolo

CLW Staff: Ellen Perkins, Joan Philip, Katie Peirolo and Kim White
Our awesome Interpreters: Betty Filipkowski and Annie Drury

Dustin and Katie Peirolo selling tickets.

Interpreted Magic Show

John and Ellen Perkins selling tickets!
**Project Hope**

Project HOPE (Health Outreach Prevention and Education) offers health support services to the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened community of Greater Boston and Eastern Massachusetts. Project HOPE is based in our Boston office, but we collaborate with DEAF, Inc.’s regional offices and partner with other agencies statewide to meet individual and community needs for health information and support.

**Our health support services include the following components:**

- Medical Case Management & Advocacy
- Sexual Health & HIV/STI Prevention Education
- Healthy Aging Workshops for Older Deaf Adults
- Annual Deaf Community Health Fair
- Health Vlogs in ASL
- Information & Referral

**CONTACT:**
Jill Hatcher, *Project Hope Director*
TTY/V: 617-254-4041
Fax: 617-254-7091
jhatcher@deafinconline.org

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**Have a suggestion for a Future Workshop or Presentation?**

Let us know! Contact your Skills Trainer or any of our DHILS staff and share your idea!
**BUDGET FRIENDLY RECIPE**

**No Noodle/Veggie Lasagna**

*From the Kitchen of CLW*

**Serves:** 8

**Ingredients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Quantity/Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large Zucchini/Eggplant</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaghetti Sauce</td>
<td>1 jar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozzarella Cheese</td>
<td>1 bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricotta/Cottage Cheese</td>
<td>2 cups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Oregano</td>
<td>1 tsp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsley</td>
<td>1 Tbsp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Garlic</td>
<td>2 Tbsp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>1 tsp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions**

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 9x13 baking dish.
- Cut zucchini/eggplant into very thin slices lengthwise and microwave with ½ cup of water for 10 min.
- When finished, set in colander to drain for 10 min.
- In a separate bowl, combine egg, ricotta/cottage cheese, garlic, salt, parsley and oregano.
- Start layering – spaghetti sauce, cooked zucchini/eggplant, ricotta mixture and mozz cheese – repeat until dish is full.
- Bake for 45 min or until bubbling.
- Let sit for about 10 min before serving.

**Tip:** Add cooked Italian sausage or hamburg to your layers if you want to add meat. Or add your favorite veggies (onions, spinach, mushrooms) for extra flavor!

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**Hello Hockey Fans!**

My name is Tymmothy Dore and I am a membership executive for the Worcester Railers – the new ECHL hockey team slated to play at the DCU Center in downtown Worcester beginning in October, 2017!

Joan Philip suggested I reach out to you in hopes that you may like more information about the Worcester Railers. We have a lot of excitement surrounding our new hockey team... and would love for you to be a part of our team!

If you have any questions or would like more information please email me at tymmothyd@railershc.com or visit www.RailersHC.com In addition, if you prefer to meet in person I am able to communicate using ASL and would be more than happy to setup a time to meet.

Thank-you for your time and I look forward to the opportunity to share all the great benefits of a Worcester Railers Hockey Club membership!
New England Deaf & ASL Social Events

Founded in 2012, this is a place to spread and become knowledgeable about aspects of American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. Cross-cultural interaction is encouraged between Deaf and hearing people in the community. **Join for iSilent Dinners and iASL Coffee Chats!** For more information like the group on Facebook or email us to be added to the mailing list for upcoming events!

**Facebook:** New England Deaf and ASL Social Events

**Email:** Minh Vo, viet60@yahoo.com

12 Step Meetings & Recovery Events

This is a partial list of dates for AA, NA, and Al-Anon Meetings in Massachusetts which will be accessible to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community. For a complete list or to be added *anonymously* to the email list please contact Scott LeSaffre at:

**Email:** Scott.LeSaffre@state.ma.us  
**Telephone:** 617-740-1600  
**Videophone:** 617-326-7546

If there is NOT a meeting listed that is convenient to you and you wish to attend a meeting in your area please contact MCDHH.

**Please Note:** Meetings marked with a (C) are considered “closed” and are for those who have an addiction problem and “have a desire to stop.” Otherwise, meetings listed here are considered “open” and therefore are: open for everyone including friends and families/acquaintances to provide support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alcohols Anonymous (AA)</th>
<th>Al-Anon meetings with ASL interpreters</th>
<th>Narcotics Anonymous (NA):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Mondays, 12pm; Tuesdays, 12pm; Wednesday, 5:30pm; Thursdays, 12pm  
ARC, 33 Main St. Marlboro, MA | The primary purpose of Al-Anon is to help families and friends of alcoholics. Al-Anon's program of recovery is based on the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as adapted from Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). | Please contact MCDHH if there is an interest in attending a NA meeting in your area. |
| Mondays, 8-9:30p, AA Meeting  
*Unity Church, Central St. Winchendon, MA*  
ON-GOING Weekly Interpreters | There are currently no meetings set up in Central MA. |                           |
Family Resources

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program at Boston Children's Hospital provides comprehensive evaluation and consultative services to deaf and hard of hearing children. We'll also interact closely with your child's physician, schools, and any other applicable agencies.

Visit this link for more information: http://www.childrenshospital.org/dhhp

Supporting the Optimal Development of Infants with Hearing Loss: What Can We Learn by Observing Deaf Parents?

Presented by: Lynn Sanford Koester, Ph. D.

When: October 6, 2016 at 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: Bordy Theater, 216 Tremont Street, Boston
Cost: FREE (light refreshments served)

Please RSVP to: CSDevents@emerson.edu

Free Morning for Families with Deaf or Hard of Hearing Infants and Toddlers

Monday, September 26th, 9:30am-12:30pm
Admission is free but pre-registration is required:

Free Evening for Families with Deaf, Hard of Hearing and KODA Children
(food, including gluten-free options, is generously provided by Not Your Average Joe’s of Acton.)

Saturday, November 5th, 5:00-8:30pm
http://discoverymuseums.org/EspeciallyForMe

The Discovery Museums of Acton, in conjunction with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program of Boston Children’s Hospital are offering these events when the Museums are closed to the public. ASL interpreters will be on site.

MUST REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS ONLINE
Things You Should Know How to Do on Facebook: Disconnect apps from your Facebook account

Even if you don’t use a particular connected app anymore, it could still be collecting information from your Facebook account. Want to turn that off? No problem!

1. Log in to your Facebook account on your desktop, mouse over Apps on the left side of the screen, and click More (Figure 1)

2. Next, click the Settings button at the top of the screen to see which apps are connected to your Facebook account.

3. To disconnect an app on that list, hover over it with your mouse and then click the X button that appears. (Figure 2)

4. You’ll then see a dialogue box prompting you to remove the app. Click Remove, and you’re finished. (Figure 3)
Directions to CLW and Parking

Visiting CLW
When you come to CLW we suggest parking in the Parking Garage that is off High/Aldrich Street—in the back of the Denholm Building (GPS address is 25 High Street).

Do not park in any of the parking lots around the building! They are private parking lots and you will be towed.

Change of Address or Email?
Fill out this form, tear it off and give it to your Skills Trainer or mail it to:
CLW, DHILS, 484 Main Street, #345, Worcester, MA 01608

Name:  
New Address:  
Apartment #:  
City:  , State:  Zip:  
Phone #: V VP TTY  
Email:  
Our Deaf Survivors Center Hotline

Don’t know how to use ODSC’s Hotline? Check out our new vlog:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=He_B2pUHEEI to learn more!

Call us on our Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline!

1-844-ODSC-SAFE
(1-844-637-2723)

Our Volunteer Advocates are fluent in ASL!
HOURS AVAILABLE: 5pm to 9am, Monday–Saturday

For more information contact Sue Philip, President, at suephilip@aol.com or visit ODSC’s website at: http://www.odscunity.org/

Our Deaf Survivors Center, PO Box 2276, Worcester, MA 01613-2276