

## Empowering Independence

March 11, 2021

CLW DHILS - SPECIAL EDITION (VOLUME 32)

### Governor Baker's COVID-19 Updates

#### COVID-19 Vaccination in MA: Phase 1 & 2 Eligibility Status

Phase 1	All phase 1 priority groups	Now eligible ✓
Phase 2	1 Individuals age 75+	Now eligible ✓
	2 Individuals 65+ and individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions	Now eligible ✓
	3 Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, agriculture, sanitation, public works, and public health	NOT YET Not yet eligible
	4 Individuals with 1 certain medical condition	NOT YET Not yet eligible

#### NEW GROUP CAN GET THE VACCINE

- **Starting March 11th**
- Early education and K-12 workers (EX: teachers, school staff, child care workers)



Not sure if you should get the vaccine? **Ask your doctor!**

Learn more about Vaccine Phases [here](#).



#### Massachusetts Large COVID-19 Vaccination locations

- Fenway Park will close March 17 (*Red Sox opening*)
- Hynes Convention Center will open March 18

#### REOPENING MASS

**Now: Phase 3, Step 2**

Phase 4 *should* start March 22.

Watch the Video [here](#) (captioned).



#### ASL Video Series



Updated CDC ASL videos available [here](#).

Other topics include:

- School Information for Parents
- Washing Your Hands
- And more!

## DON'T Share your Vaccine Card!

After you get the COVID-19 Vaccine you'll get a card with:

- Name
- Birthday
- Which COVID-19 vaccine you got
- First vaccine date
- Second vaccine shot
- Where you got the vaccine

COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.

Por favor, guarde esta tarjeta de registro, que incluye información médica sobre las vacunas que ha recibido.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient number (medical record or ID record number): \_\_\_\_\_

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer	Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1 <sup>st</sup> Dose COVID-19			mm dd yy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose COVID-19			mm dd yy	
Other			mm dd yy	
Other			mm dd yy	

**IMPORTANT: Keep this card!**

**DON'T share pictures of your Vaccine card on social media** (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.). **A scammer could use it to steal your identity.**

Show off your vaccination—use a sticker, frame, etc.!



## New MCDHH Commissioner VLOG



Please see the introduction and welcome message from MCDHH's newest team member, Commissioner Opeoluwa Sotonwa.

His first official day was March 1, 2021!

<https://www.facebook.com/MCDHH.MA/videos/vb.228383383894713/424907941945660/?type=2&theater>

## Lowell General Hospital Interpreter Services

Learn how to contact your doctor and schedule an interpreter before going to the hospital, lab, or doctor's appointment.

*Video is in ASL with captions.*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Imwo3I\\_PJW8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Imwo3I_PJW8)

**Interpreter Services Phone:** (978) 937-6591

**Email:** [Interpreter.Services@lowellgeneral.org](mailto:Interpreter.Services@lowellgeneral.org)



**NOTE:** See separate *SE Resources* page for more information or contact your Skills Trainer with questions.

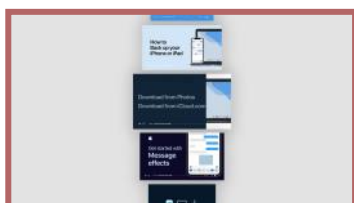
# Apple Stores: ASL Interpreters Available!

How to request an ASL Interpreter for **in-store appointments**:

- 1) Find your store: <https://www.apple.com/retail/>
- 2) Go to the bottom of the page
- 3) Click on “Request a sign language interpreter”
  - Send your name and how best to contact you
  - Date/time of your visit

**VRI is also available for walk-in appointments.**

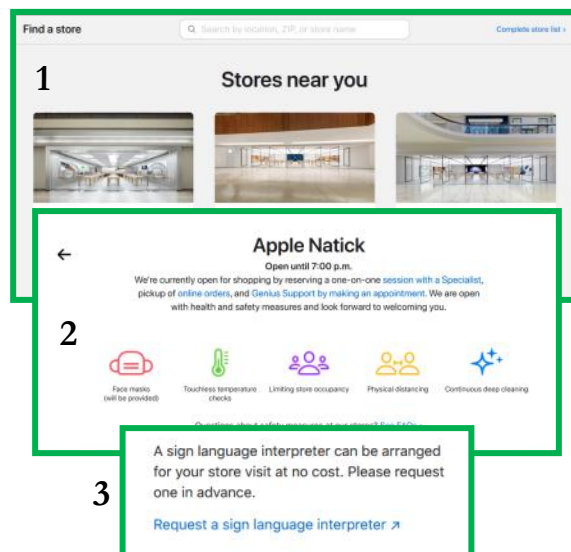
## Other Resources:



Apple Support—YouTube  
[videos with captions.](#)



Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
[Accessibility features](#)



## 2021 National Survey on Health and Disability

Are you an adult—age 18 or over—with a disability, chronic illness/disease, mental or physical health condition? Fill out the survey and share how access to health care, insurance and the COVID-19 pandemic affects your life.

- The survey will take about 20 minutes to do.
- Responses are anonymous (private).

Want to take the survey over the phone or have any questions?

Call: 1-855-556-6328 (Voice/TTY) **or** Email: [healthsurvey@ku.edu](mailto:healthsurvey@ku.edu)

**ENTER A RAFFLE TO WIN ONE OF FIFTEEN \$100 GIFT CARDS!**

- Weekly drawings will happen until the survey closes April 30th, 2021.
- You can enter the raffle *with or without* finishing the survey.
- Raffle requires first name and phone # **or** email address.



To do the survey, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/NSHD2021>

## DHILS Deaf Skills Trainer (P/T 20 hours)

Provide Independent Living skills training, peer counseling, resources and advocacy to Deaf consumers.



- Part-time – 20 hours.
- Fluent in ASL (required).

See the full job description and requirements [here](#).

Questions? Contact Deb Olson at: [dolson@centerlw.org](mailto:dolson@centerlw.org)

## Zoom Guide

CLW DHILS made a guide for using Zoom. Step-by-step instructions and pictures show how to:

- Download the Zoom app
- Join/Leave a meeting
- Gallery View vs. Speaker View
- Pin a screen



**WANT A COPY?** Contact Denise Paro at: [dparo@centerlw.org](mailto:dparo@centerlw.org) or 508-556-1600 (VP)

*NOTE: let us know which one(s) you want! (Computer/Cell Phone/iPad)*

## Zoom: Automatic Live Captions



Zoom will make automatic closed captioning available to **ALL free** customers in Fall 2021.

**Can't wait?** Fill out an early request form at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSccQQ2W-K8naaltkBIbuv6BfJvisyoNZS2qWIKdogSMUWGGpQ/viewform>

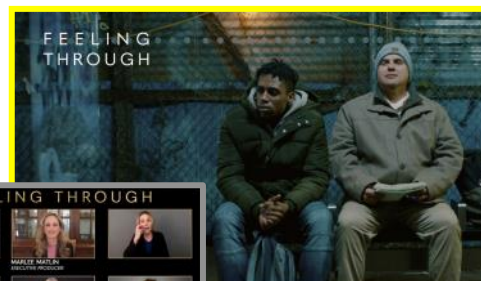
You will receive a confirmation email with more information. *Be patient—many people will be requesting this!*

**Read more here:** <https://blog.zoom.us/update-on-live-transcription-for-free-accounts/>

## Feeling Through Movie—A Discussion

*Feeling Through* is a new movie inspired by a true story. Click to watch a discussion about authentic casting, accessible filmmaking, and much more!

<https://www.facebook.com/helenkellerservicesfortheblind/videos/823693171547615/>





## Private/Charter Schools and Accommodations



Are private or charter schools required to provide accommodations (CART, interpreters, Assistive Listening Devices, etc.) and services for children with hearing loss? Read a recent article from the *Success for Kids with Hearing Loss* web site:

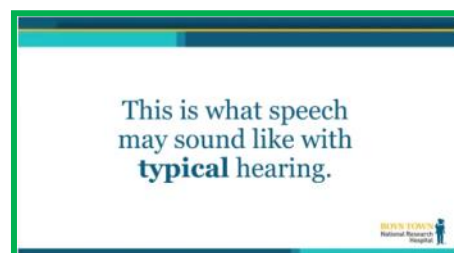
<https://successforkidswithhearingloss.com/2021/02/19/can-kids-with-hearing-loss-in-private-or-charter-schools-receive-dhh-support-services/>

## What Does Childhood Hearing Loss Sound Like?

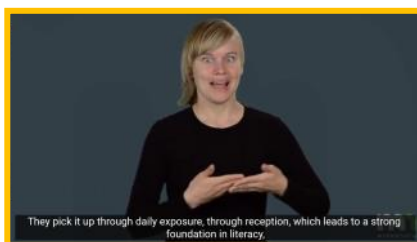


Click here to watch a video (with sound) that shows how hearing loss and hearing aids affect a child's ability to listen and learn:

<https://www.babyhearing.org/what-is-an-audiogram/>



## Webinar Series: Building a Foundation of Language



Short videos include tips on how to build language during play time, snack time, mindfulness time, and more: <https://mn.gov/deaf-commission/advocacy-issues/education/early-hearing-detection-and-intervention/foundation-of-language/>

[Minnesota Commission of the D/DB/HH].

WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY		Holds pickup	Computer appointments	Print/fax/copy appointments
<b>Main Library</b> 508-799-1655	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Frances Perkins Branch</b> 508-799-1687	✓			
<b>Great Brook Valley Branch</b> 508-799-1729	✓			
<b>Burncoat Branch</b> 508-799-8328	✓			
<b>Goddard Branch</b> 508-799-8330	✓			
<b>Roosevelt Branch</b> 508-799-8327	✓			
<b>Tatnuck Magnet Branch</b> 508-799-8329	✓			

2-3 days a week only

Reopened services as of 2/1/21 - check [mywpl.org](http://mywpl.org) for hours and updates

WORCESTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Open for **LIMITED SERVICES** [limited services].
- **Services include:** holds pickup, appointments for computer use, printing, copying, and faxing.
- Click [here](#) to find out more about your location.
- Click [here](#) for online **Events**.

**Don't live in Worcester?**  
Check out **YOUR** local library website!

# COVID-19 Resources/Data

To save space in the newsletter, you can find all COVID-19 information (maps, data, orders, information, etc.) on these websites listed below. ***We will add more sites as needed.***

Vaccine Information	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine">https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine</a>
Vaccine Appointments	<a href="https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/">https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/</a>
Vaccine Appointments for 75+	<a href="http://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccinations-for-people-ages-75-and-older">www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccinations-for-people-ages-75-and-older</a>
COVID-19 Testing	<a href="http://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing">www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing</a>
US COVID-19 Cases and Deaths <i>by State</i>	<a href="https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_casesper100klast7days">https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_casesper100klast7days</a>
COVID-19 Variant in the US	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html</a>
MA COVID-19 town-by-town map	<a href="https://www.wcvb.com/article/massachusetts-coronavirus-covid-19-community-spread-risk-map-color-coded/33646711">https://www.wcvb.com/article/massachusetts-coronavirus-covid-19-community-spread-risk-map-color-coded/33646711</a>
MA Travel Order	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order#lower-risk-states">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order#lower-risk-states</a>
MA Response Reporting	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting</a>
MA <i>Stop the Spread</i>	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread</a> ASL Version: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/massgov/videos/434334580929189/">https://www.facebook.com/massgov/videos/434334580929189/</a>
Re-Opening MA	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information#reopening-massachusetts-">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information#reopening-massachusetts-</a>
Governor Press Conferences	Watch here: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/governor-updates">https://www.mass.gov/governor-updates</a> Press Releases: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/lists/press-releases-related-to-covid-19">https://www.mass.gov/lists/press-releases-related-to-covid-19</a>



## 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](http://www.CenterLW.org)



Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/CenterForLivingAndWorking>

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



February — June 2021

*First Wednesday of the month*

1:00 — 2:30 PM



Healthy Relationship Support Group on Zoom

April 7: Tech Safety

May 5: Safety Planning

June 9: How to be an Ally/Self-care

**RSVP REQUIRED**

Contact Denise Paro at:

508-508-556-1600 or

[DParo@CenterLW.org](mailto:DParo@CenterLW.org)

Watch a VLOG here: <https://youtu.be/H8qhsxZoKZk>

DHILS Consumer Deaf Zoom Chat

*Second Tuesday of the month!*

1:00 — 2:00 PM



JOIN US!

April 13, 2021

May 11, 2021

June 8, 2021

**RSVP TO Denise Paro at:**

508-508-556-1600 or

[DParo@CenterLW.org](mailto:DParo@CenterLW.org)

Watch a VLOG here: <https://youtu.be/OBdXcnYlhBo>

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

*First and third Wednesday of the month*

10:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Virtual Housing Workshop

*Boston Center for Independent Living* (BCIL)'s workshop will teach you about affordable housing options in your area and how to apply.

*Register [here](#).*

March 31, 2021

11:00 AM — 12:00 PM



Independent Living Education Day 2021: a Virtual Event

More information coming soon! *Updates can be found [here](#).*

Questions? Contact [sadie@masilc.org](mailto:sadie@masilc.org) or 508-620-7452.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/independent-living-education-day-tickets-137489487759>

April 9 — 10, 2021



2021 DEN Conference: Innovate & Adapt  
*Deaf Entrepreneurship Network*

*On Zoom*

Registration: [www.goden.org/2021virtualden](http://www.goden.org/2021virtualden)

July 19 — 30, 2021



2021 Annual Conference on Independent Living

Keep checking for updates!

<https://ncil.org/2021-annual-conference-on-independent-living/>

*Last Thursday of Every Month!*

10:00 AM — 2:00 PM



MassHire Central Career Centers—Virtual Job Fair

Free for all job seekers and employers.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: The Tuesday before the event.

Contact your MassHire Center: <https://masshirecentralcc.com/>

WE ARE  
BACK!

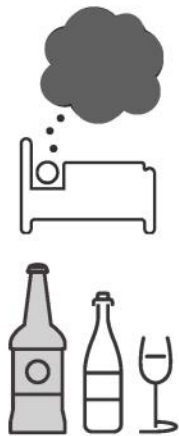
# Signs of Safety

RESEARCH STUDY

NOW FULLY  
VIRTUAL!



ARE YOU DEAF OR HARD-OF-HEARING?  
WANT HELP WITH TRAUMA OR ALCOHOL PROBLEMS?



## WHO?

- Deaf or HH, ASL users
- Age 18+
- Massachusetts residents
- Trauma problems (ex: *nightmares, trouble sleeping, bad memories*)
- Alcohol problems

## WHAT?

### 12 weekly sessions of video therapy:

- 1-hour individual sessions with ASL therapist
- Learn skills to manage trauma and addiction

### 6 videophone interviews over time:

Week 0  
Earn \$25

Week 4  
Earn \$25

Week 8  
Earn \$25

Week 12  
Earn \$25

Week 16  
Earn \$25

Exit  
Interview  
Earn \$50

*We will keep your information private*



## HOW?

**Contact Melissa Anderson**

Melissa.Anderson@umassmed.edu

VP: 774-670-4486



#H00013634



# Deaf Perspectives on Treatment for Alcohol Use & Stress

University of Rochester researchers are studying Deaf perspectives on alcohol use, stress, and the decision to seek treatment. Individual interviews will be conducted on Zoom.



**Volunteers  
will be paid  
\$40**

## **You may qualify for an interview if:**

- ✓ You frequently drink alcohol
- ✓ You are experiencing stress
- ✓ Are Deaf or hard-of-hearing
- ✓ ASL is your preferred language
- ✓ Are over 18 years old

## To Learn more contact

Aileen Aldalur, PhD  
Postdoctoral Associate  
University of Rochester  
Medical Center

Email:  
Aileen\_Aldalur@URMC.Rochester.edu

Video Phone:  
(585) 371-6125



## Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf

proudly hosts

## Virtual ASL St. Patrick's Day Talent Show

When?

**Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Time?

**8:00 pm**

(Performance will begin at 8:30 pm)

**MSAD Zoom Link**

**Meeting ID: 458 765 5196**

**Passcode: MSAD**

**Mistress of Ceremony: Ivy Vélez**

**MSAD JUDGES**

Dana Hoover

Carol Zurek

Raylene Lotz



### 10 PERFORMERS WANTED! (first come, first serve)

Who should participate? **Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind community members. (18 years old & up)**

How to sign up for the show: Send your name, talent name and text number before **Friday, 5:00 pm EST, March 12, 2021** to askivyvelez@gmail.com

## Winners:

### Best ASL Talent

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50



### Best & Creative

### St. Patrick Look on ZOOM

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50

**For more information or questions: contact**

**Ivy Vélez, Chairperson -**

**AskIvyVelez@gmail.com**

Judging is based on the following criteria:

### **(1) RELEVANCE**

theme and goals of ASL related St. Patrick's Day

### **(2) ORIGINALITY**

original, creativity and imagination!

## Parent/Kids Events

Thursdays

4:00 – 5:00 PM

Starting March 11th



**Coping & Parenting During COVID-19 Support Group**

On Zoom

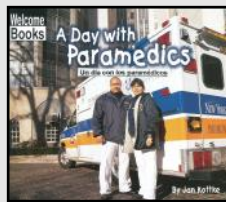
- Discuss challenges/successes
- Connect with others
- Learn how to cope, and more!

**Register: Call 508-796-1411 or [Email CKeenan@sevenhills.org](mailto:CKeenan@sevenhills.org)**

**NOTE: Request an ASL Interpreter or CART right away!**

March 20th

10:00 AM



**Shared Reading Saturday—“A Day with Paramedics”**

[Facebook Live](#) or [YouTube Live](#)

Interpretation will be provided in English and Spanish. A link to a playlist of the story in ASL on YouTube will be shared.

Second Tuesday of the month

1:00 – 2:00 PM



**Mental Health Advocacy Program for Kids**

Learn more about **MHAP for Kids** [here](#).

**April 13: Delinquency Proceedings/CRA Law**

**May 11: C&P Proceedings/CRA Law**

**June 8: School Discipline Rights**

**Register by sending an email to Michaela: [mmacquarrie@hla-inc.org](mailto:mmacquarrie@hla-inc.org)**



**Boston Children's Hospital Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program**

Visit Facebook for the latest events:

<https://www.facebook.com/BostonChildrensDHHP>



**Worcester Family Partnership**

Click [here](#) to see the *February* calendar.

**Register for ALL events [here](#).**

## Questions about this Newsletter?

Need a website address from your printed newsletter? Contact your Skills Trainer!

Joan Philip	DHILS Director	508-762-1165 (VP)
VACANT	Deaf Skills Trainer	508-762-1350 (VP)
Denise Paro	Administrative Assistant	508-556-1600 (VP)
Ellen Perkins	Hard of Hearing Skills Trainer	508-502-7576 (Voice); 508-762-1354 (VP)
Joy Spurlin	Assistant Manager/Skills Trainer	508-762-1166 (VP)
Justina Bailey	Deaf Skills Trainer	508-762-1021 (VP)
Kim White	Staff Interpreter	508-755-1042 x5042; 508-283-1036 (VP)



# Virtual Session: July 10, 2021

## JULY



## 2021

# CAMP CATCH THEM YOUNG



A ten-day youth cultural immersion program that will address college readiness and develop leadership abilities.



The camp cost is \$250.00 this year, as it is virtual; and we won't be offering scholarships. That also means no tours of DC, and no field trips/ outdoor activities.



College-bound Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard-of-hearing students of color, aged 15–19 on/by July 10, 2021

Fun. Connections. Education. Exploration. Growth. Leadership. Nurturing. Preparation. Strategize.



**APPLY HERE:**

**[GU.LIVE/CCTY2021](https://gu.live/ccty2021)**



**Deadline** is June 30, 2021.

800 Florida Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

(202) 559-7835 (videophone/voice)  
(202) 651-5050 (voice)



# March Middle School Madness!!

Is your D/HH child moving up from elementary to middle school?  
Join us for several or all workshops throughout the month of March!

**Circle your calendar: Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m.**

Registration is required. E-mail Susan Gibbons at [susan.gibbons@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:susan.gibbons@childrens.harvard.edu) if you plan to attend.

Zoom captioning will be provided. Let us know in advance if ASL interpretation is needed.

## February 24

Kickoff: Tips for the Transition

Presenter: Susan Gibbons, AuD, CCC-A, SLP

Audiologist / Educational Audiologist  
Boston Children's Hospital

## March 3

Panel Discussion:

Teachers of the Deaf

Presenters: Kathy Nye, TOD  
Brockton Public Schools

Nancy Siska, MA, MS, CCC-SLP  
Educational Consultant  
Public School Partnerships  
The Learning Center for the Deaf

Elissa Sanford, MEd  
Assistant Director and Teacher of the Deaf  
Public School Partnerships  
The Learning Center for the Deaf

## March 10

Panel Discussion: Parents

## March 17

Panel Discussion: Students

## March 24

Panel Discussion: Psychologists

Presenters:

Matthew Fasano-McCarron, PsyD  
Pediatric Neuropsychologist  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program  
Boston Children's Hospital

Yoav Shimoni, PsyD  
Post-Doctorate Fellow  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program  
Boston Children's Hospital

### Zoom meeting information:

<https://bostonchildrens.zoom.us/j/98145248216>

Password: 972009

Meeting ID: 981 4524 8216

Or dial in from your telephone:

(646) 558-8656 (Primary)

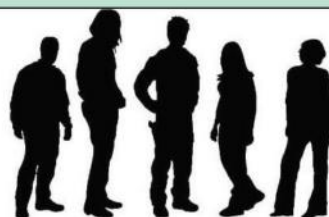
(408) 638-0968 (if unable to dial into the  
primary number)

Telephone password: 972009



**Boston Children's Hospital**  
Otolaryngology and  
Communication Enhancement  
**Family Education and Advocacy Team**

Transitions • Workshops • Connections ... beyond the clinic  
Funded by the Decibels Foundation and The Caroline Bass Fund





# ASL It! classes

The purpose of ASL It! is to learn sign language through monthly fun themes for families and children under age 13. We use self-developed curriculums, language models and YouTube videos, followed by activities. We also provide resources, materials and space for family networking.

Monthly themes include sports, school, holidays, feelings, and more!

Circle your calendar

First Wednesday of the month

April 7 - November 3, 2021

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.



Contact Katie McCarthy at [katie.mccarthy@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:katie.mccarthy@childrens.harvard.edu) to be added to the list to receive monthly notifications about ASL It! and the Zoom link. ASL It! is available at no cost for families with appreciation to:



**Boston Children's Hospital**  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Program



**SPECIAL  
OFFERING!**

## Introduction to ASL (5 weeks)

This is an introductory course for families who would like to learn American Sign Language.

Mondays from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

March 15 - April 12

The course will include fingerspelling, vocabulary, conversations, grammatical markers, and resources to continue building your ASL skills.

E-mail Katie if you would like to take this course