

September 16, 2021



Empowering
Independence

CENTER FOR LIVING & WORKING, INC.
WHAT'S UP?



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

COVID-19 Updates

What if you lose your COVID-19 Vaccination Card?

To get a booster shot, you need your vaccination card — what if you can't find it?



If you were Vaccinated by:

- A doctor/PCP OR at a community health center

⇒ Contact your doctor/PCP

- A local health department OR “pop-up” clinic

⇒ Contact your doctor/PCP

- **Mass vaccination site** (Fenway, Hynes Convention Center, Gillette Stadium, Reggie Lewis Center, Natick Mall, Eastfield Mall, etc.)

⇒ Contact your doctor/PCP OR

⇒ Follow instructions for your site at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/requesting-a-copy-of-your-covid-19-vaccination-record>

- CVS

⇒ Get a printed record of vaccination or digital proof (using a secure QR code you keep on your phone.)

⇒ Will **NOT** give replacement cards



NOTE: If you have an official “vaccination record”, you can ask your doctor/PCP for another CDC card.

Read full article here: <https://www.wcvb.com/article/what-to-do-if-you-lose-your-covid-19-vaccination-card-massachusetts/37385948>





SOME COVID-19 VARIANTS SPREAD FASTER, INCLUDING DELTA.

We must use all the tools we have
to protect ourselves and others

1



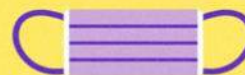
GET VACCINATED
AS SOON AS
IT'S YOUR TURN

2



KEEP A SAFE
DISTANCE AND
AVOID CROWDS

3



WEAR
A MASK

4



COUGH OR SNEEZE
INTO YOUR
ELBOW OR A TISSUE

5



OPEN YOUR
WINDOWS AND
KEEP SPACES
WELL VENTILATED

6



CLEAN YOUR
HANDS
REGULARLY



**TLC's Vaccine Outreach:
Sharing Resources**

<https://www.tlcdeaf.org/VAXup>



Governor Baker's Updates

Watch past press briefings [here](#).

Press Office: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/governors-press-office>

Worcester Vaccination Programs

Learn more about *COVID-19 vaccines* and where to get one at: <http://www.worcesterma.gov/coronavirus/vaccination>

Includes:

- Mobile Vaccination Clinics
- Worcester Public Library - Equity Clinic
- Vaccination Sites



Stop & Shop: Now Accepts EBT Card Payments for Pickup and Delivery

Have SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits?

Now you can pay with an EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card for *Stop & Shop Pickup and Delivery* **online orders**.



- Can be used for eligible food and grocery items
- Must have an alternative credit/debit card or checking account for any items not SNAP eligible
- SNAP does not cover additional *fees, taxes, or driver tips*

Fees:

- Pickup orders: \$2.95 fee
- Delivery orders:
 - ◊ \$9.95 fee (orders less than \$100)
 - ◊ \$6.95 fee (orders greater than \$100)
- *Instacart* orders: <https://www.instacart.com/stop-shop>



Read more here: <https://www.mass.gov/news/stop-shop-now-accepting-ebt-card-payments-for-massachusetts-snap-customers-shopping-online-for-pickup-and-delivery>

September is *National Recovery Month*



This year's theme, "[Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community](#)," reminds people in recovery and those who support them that no one is alone in the journey through recovery.

Learn more at: <https://www.naadac.org/national-recovery-month>

Staff Updates

Hi, my name is **Catherine Brown** and I am the part time DHILS Deaf Skills Trainer at CLW. I graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College with degrees in Early Childhood Education and Liberal Arts. I was the second Deaf person to work as an esthetician in New England and graduated from Catherine Hinds Esthetic Institute. I have enjoyed working at spas to provide relaxation and skin care treatments. Over the years, I have worked with adults and children with disabilities to empower them to live independently.

I was born hearing and became profoundly deaf from spinal meningitis at 16 months old. I have a hearing family and attended mainstream school with ASL interpreters, teachers of the Deaf, and speech therapy. I just celebrated 15 years of marriage and I am a Deaf mother to three hearing children ages 8, 5 and 3. I enjoy doing crafts and hiking with my family.

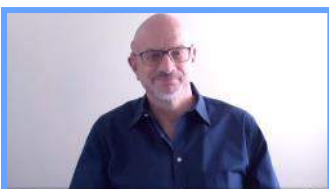
My goal as a Deaf Skills Trainer is to support consumers so they are successful and satisfied with their life goals. I hope to provide you with the tools and skills you need to accomplish your goals—inside and outside the home. I look forward to working with you!



Hello, my name's **Mackenzie Lloyd**. I am a senior at Framingham State University (FSU) in the ASL/English Interpreting program. I am also the president of the FSU ASL Club. I enjoy working with people and learning new things. While working in this field, my goal is to provide and participate in culturally appropriate language access for the Deaf and hard of hearing community.



Overview of MCDHH's Communication Access, Training and Technology Services (CATTs)



Interested in knowing more regarding the *MCDHH CATTs department*? Here's your opportunity! Department members, Jonathan O'Dell and Zoe RajBhandary share the services available.

Watch the VLOG: <https://fb.watch/7OgmEN-jmI/>



Read the transcript: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Buh-9myINWuHXy4QV-JSPgapQPWoL98Wy8cSUAWTcHo/edit?usp=sharing>

Important Notice: Do You Get SSI?

Previously, Social Security Administration (SSA) counted pandemic-related financial assistance against SSI eligibility or benefit amount. Some people's SSI benefits were reduced/stopped; some SSI applications were denied.

Due to the seriousness of COVID-19, now SSA decided **NOT** to count *most* types of COVID-19 financial assistance.

WooSox's Deaf Awareness Night!

On September 8th, the WooSox recognized *Center for Living & Working, Inc.* as their **Heart of Worcester** for *Deaf Awareness Night*. As part of the celebration, Sue and Joan Philip threw the first pitches with both balls going to home plate! It was a fantastic night and will become an annual event at Polar Park.

Sue and Joan's roots are in Worcester. Their grandparents moved to Worcester from Albania. They bought a house, which is still in the Philip's name in the Green Island area of Worcester. They had 10 children, including Sue's and Joan's father. Their Deaf father was well known, not only in the Deaf Community as an advocate, but within the Green Island neighborhood and greater Worcester community during his younger years through the *Boy's Club*, and later Advisory Committee on Handicapped, under City Manager McGrath. He was also very involved in the *Worcester Deaf Club, Inc.*

Their Deaf mother and father met while she was living on Water Street. They got married and started a family in Worcester, where they raised their three Deaf daughters.

Currently, Sue is the President of *Our Deaf Survivors Center, Inc.*, an agency located in Worcester that provides statewide sexual and domestic violence services to Deaf victims/survivors. She is also a Disability Etiquette trainer under the City of Worcester's Office of Human Rights and Accessibility.

Joan is the Director of Deaf/Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services at the *Center for Living & Working, Inc.*, which serves and empowers people with disabilities and Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals to become independent.





WE NEED FAMILY FEEDBACK!

Shared Reading Saturday would like to hear from you. As we move forward with our Fall 2021 season we want to make sure that all of our families are comfortable with our plans. We have considered 3 possible options and we would like to know, of the 3, what your preference is. We'd also like to know what sorts of safety precautions you'd like to see in place.

[Please Fill Out Our Survey](#)

Our Deaf Survivors Center, Inc.

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITY!!

Executive Director

(updated as of 8/19/21)

See more information at:

[odscunity.org/careers](https://www.odscunity.org/careers)

<https://www.odscunity.org/>

<https://twitter.com/odsc2>

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

Exciting job opportunity!!

**OUR DEAF SURVIVORS CENTER, INC.
IS GROWING!**

Join and lead our passionate team as:

Executive Director

Check out the job description and
how to apply at:
www.odscunity.org/careers

We care deeply for our community.
Help us make an even bigger impact!
Provide much needed DV/SV
support services.
Share your leadership, management
and teamwork skills.

Questions?
Contact Sue Phillip at:
suephilip@aol.com





OUR DEAF SURVIVORS CENTER, INC.
128 PROVIDENCE ST.
WORCESTER, MA 01604



Research Volunteers needed for study investigating accessibility in **emergency departments**

Who qualifies?

Any person who:

- Is **Deaf** or **Hard of Hearing**
- Has received care in an **emergency department** in **Massachusetts** in the past 18 months
- Is 18+ years old



What is the study?

We are investigating the **accessibility of emergency departments** for people who are deaf or hard of hearing in order to make these spaces more inclusive and accommodating for our patients



What will participants do?

Participate in a **one-on-one interview** over **Zoom**.

ASL interpreters/Certified Deaf Interpreters will be provided, or interview can be conducted by written text



Participants will be eligible to receive a gift card as compensation

Interested?

Click [this link](#) to confirm your interest and eligibility and our team will contact you promptly.

Please contact UMassDisabilityStudy@gmail.com with any questions

You're Invited!

MRC Focus Groups

We want to hear from you!

Join our virtual focus groups to share your experience receiving Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) services during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

What is it?

We are hosting two virtual focus groups to better understand the impact COVID-19 has had on your MRC services and supports.

Questions?

Contact Amanda Costa,
MRC Director, Office of Individual and
Family Engagement
amanda.costa@mass.gov



When is it?

The focus groups will take place virtually on Zoom.

Monday, October 4 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, October 8 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

CART and ASL Interpreters will be present 10/8

Who can participate?

- Individuals who received services from MRC during the COVID-19 Pandemic

How can I register?

Registration required. Due to limited capacity, registration does not guarantee your placement in one of the focus groups. MRC will notify you if you have been selected to participate.

[Register here](#)



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

Hybrid: 1 - 2 days
in office

Join the CLW DHILS Team as a: **DEAF SKILLS TRAINER**

This job is great for you, if you love to:

- Empower and work with consumers on personal goals
- Advocate for Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals on local/state levels
- Provide:
 - 1:1 independent living skills training and peer support to consumers
 - information & referral
 - guidance and leadership
- Problem solve
- Work independently and with the team
- Work with individuals with diverse disabilities and cultures

Qualifications:

Education

- High School or equivalent (GED) required; Bachelor Degree in health/human services, preferred; years of relevant experience may be substituted for Bachelor Degree;

Experience

- ASL Fluent
- 2 years minimum of relevant experience working in Deaf/Hard of Hearing services OR involvement with the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community required;
- Microsoft Office and database management

GREAT BENEFITS

- Medical
- Dental
- 403(b) Retirement

PAID:

- Life Insurance
- Short Term Disability (STD)
- Long Term Disability (LTD)
- Parking
- 13 Holidays
- Vacation
- Sick Time
- Mileage Reimbursement

\$17.35/hour / 40 hours/week / Mon - Fri

**Apply
Now**

INTERESTED OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email Deb Olson at: dolson@centerlw.org

APPLY and SEE MORE INFO HERE:

[Full-Time Deaf Skills Trainer Positions](#)

Center for Living & Working, Inc.

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Worcester, MA 01608

Website: www.centerlw.org

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



*Empowering
Independence*

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Toll Free: (800) 570-4020
TTY: (508) 755-1003
VP: (508) 762-1164
Fax: (508) 797-4015

COVID-19 Resources/Data

We will add more sites as needed.

Vaccine Information	https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine
Vaccine Appointments	https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/
COVID-19 Testing	www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing
US COVID-19 Cases and Deaths <i>by State</i>	https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_casesper100klast7days
MA Travel Order	https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order
MA Response Reporting	https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting

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

Questions about this Newsletter?

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

Joan Philip	DHILS Director	508-762-1165 (VP)
Denise Paro	Administrative Assistant	508-556-1600 (VP)
Ellen Perkins	DHILS Asst. Manager/Hard of Hearing Skills Trainer	508-502-7576 (Voice); 508-762-1354 (VP)
Catherine Brown	Deaf Skills Trainer (Part-time)	508-762-1021 (VP)
Kim White	Staff Interpreter	508-755-1042 x5042; 508-283-1036 (VP)
VACANT	Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	
VACANT	Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	

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



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services



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

DHILS Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/469192334303776>