

April 7, 2022



Empowering  
Independence

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



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

## MCDHH Updates



### MCDHH Staffing Announcement

MCDHH is thrilled to announce that **Peggy Lee** has been selected as the new **Director of Social Services**, effective *June 27, 2022*.



Ms. Lee received a degree in Psychology at Saint Anselm College, and her Ed. M. in Deaf Education at Boston University. She has over 25 years of experience as a Teacher of the Deaf and has served the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities in many capacities. Lee joins MCDHH from her position as the Chief Program Officer at the Children's Center for Communication/Beverly School for the Deaf.

Ms. Lee previously worked at MCDHH as a Children's Specialist for the Boston and Northeast area and is thrilled to be rejoining the team. She is passionate about advocating for the needs of Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and DeafBlind individuals. Her knowledge of MCDHH as an agency, and firsthand experience working with our constituents will be an invaluable asset to the Commonwealth.

### MCDHH Interpreter and CART Department Updates



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT IT!

Facebook link — click [here](#)

Transcript link — click [here](#)



TEMPORARY REFERRAL SYSTEM

VLOG — click [here](#)

Transcript — click [here](#)



**The Denholm Building power is BACK ON!**

CLW's offices will re-open on Monday, April 11th

**Please call your Skills Trainer  
to make an appointment!**

# COVID-19 Updates



## United States at a Glance



## Test to Treat initiative

“One-Stop Test to Treat” sites — go to 1 place:

- 1) Get tested;
- 2) If you test positive for COVID-19,
- 3) Get **free** lifesaving COVID-19 treatment there, fast.  
(A doctor or nurse will give you a prescription that will be filled there.)

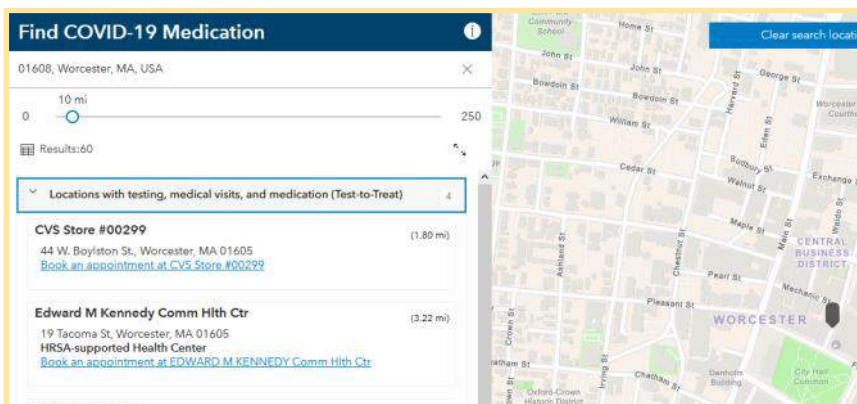


**You can continue to be tested and treated by your own doctor or nurse.** They will prescribe treatment as needed.

**How do I find a One-Stop Test to Treat site?**

- 1) Go to: <https://covid-19-test-to-treat-locator-dhhs.hub.arcgis.com/>
- 2) Enter Zip Code

EXAMPLE: 01608 Worcester, MA



**WANT MORE INFORMATION ON COVID-19?**

Go to: <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-updates-and-information>

## COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

The CDC approved some people for a 2nd booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna).

You can get a 2nd booster dose if you:

- Got *Johnson & Johnson/Janssen* — 2 times (1st and booster doses) **4 months or more ago**
- Are **50 or older** AND got any booster dose **4 months or more ago**
- Are **moderately or severely immunocompromised, 12 years or older**, AND got any booster dose **4 months or more ago**

**Questions or not sure what to do?** Talk to your doctor!



# COVID-19 Updates (*Continued...*)

## Quarantine and Isolation Calculator

This new CDC tool tells you how long, people sick with COVID-19 and close contacts need to stay home, get tested, and wear a well-fitting mask.

1) Click [here](#) to go to the site.

2) Answer questions.

3) See suggestions

Questions or not sure  
what to do?  
*Talk to your doctor!*

## An Historic Oscars Celebration—*CODA*

The movie CODA won 3 Academy (Oscar) Awards:

- Best Picture
- Best Adapted Screenplay
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role



VLOG from NAD: [https://youtu.be/p6rDMh\\_28co](https://youtu.be/p6rDMh_28co)

A video about Troy Kotsur's *Supporting Actor* Oscars win:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2FvECYsmk>

## Free Video Series — *Financial Literacy*

Accessible/ASL videos (FREE for students, families, and educators) include topics like: making choices, citizenship, banking, and money, owning a business, being an entrepreneur, getting a job, and more.

Click here: <https://www.cdhy.wa.gov/resources/video/basics-financial-literacy/>



## Introducing DHILS Intern: *Sam Cuddy*

Hello! My name is Sam Cuddy, and I am currently a student at *Northern Essex Community College*, majoring in American Sign Language. I'm from Toronto, Ontario and just moved to Massachusetts last summer, and so far am really enjoying it! I completed a Bachelors degree in Sociology and First Peoples Studies from *Concordia University* in Montreal, and decided to return to school to learn a new skill that interests me. I look forward to being involved with CLW in the future, learning and growing and setting myself up for a successful, fulfilling career.



## P-EBT Approved for School Year 2021-2022

*Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)* benefits for students who missed school **due to COVID-related absences**, will be given to school-age children and their families through school year 2021-2022. Benefit amounts depend on how many **COVID-related excused** absences a student has in a month.

- **1-5 absences:** \$21 a month per student
- **6-15 absences:** \$71 a month per student
- **16+ absences:** \$128 a month per student



### When will families get payments?

- **May 25, 2022:** Eligible families will get a payment for *September 2021 – April 2022*
- **May 25th AND June 25th** (for May and June – the last 2 months of the school year)

Where? On your P-EBT card (the same card as before).

### Lost your P-EBT Card?

- Ask for another card at: <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/pebt>



**Students newly eligible for P-EBT** benefits will get payments:

- On their *EBT* card (if already getting DTA benefits) **or**
- A *P-EBT* card will be mailed to them (if they're not yet getting DTA benefits)

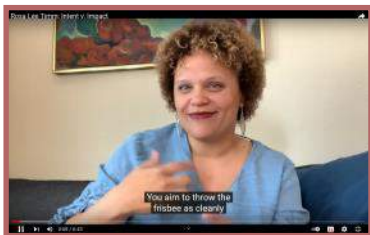


# Welcome Spring!





## New VLOGS



### Practicing Intent vs. Impact

Sometimes the best intentions can have unintended results. Rosa Lee Timm uses a frisbee accidentally hitting someone as an analogy for how our words and actions can cause harm even when it is not the goal.

VLOG: <https://youtu.be/XZGI5aJyzuk>



### What is Dementia?

DEAF, Inc. *Dementia Workshop* (February 17, 2022): *Post Event VLOG*

Learn about:

- 4 different kinds of dementia
- Causes of dementia
- What to do if you think you — or someone you love — might have dementia

VLOG: <https://fb.watch/cc8cKSvIS1/>



### How to Protect Against Cyberattacks



Jared Evans, **Information Security Officer** (*Gallaudet University*) talks about: Phishing, Passwords, Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) on your phone, Security Updates and Backups, and more.

VLOG: <https://youtu.be/OiA3JPLujUo>

## Free **PeaPod** grocery delivery

For CLW Consumers and Staff — **Fill-out the delivery form at:**

<https://www.centerlw.org/free-peapod-delivery/>

**Peapod will contact you after to setup your account.**



## WRTA Worcester Area Busses Are **FREE** Until 2023!

Thank you Worcester Zero-Fare Coalition for your outstanding advocacy efforts to extend FREE fares until 2023!

## Updated **Therapists for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Directory**

Click here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mRNQIKYYNjM4vYpRX7OECQkiW-PQlu62/view?usp=sharing>





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](mailto:dolson@centerlw.org)

**APPLY and SEE MORE INFO HERE:**

**[Full-Time Deaf Skills Trainer Position](#)**

### Center for Living & Working, Inc.

484 Main Street Suite 345

Worcester, MA 01608

Website: [www.centerlw.org](http://www.centerlw.org)

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



*Empowering  
Independence*

Voice: (508) 798-0350

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**YOU MUST REGISTER FOR EACH  
CHAT YOU WANT TO JOIN BEFORE  
THE “RSVP BY” DATE SHOWN!**



## 2022 DHILS Consumer *ZOOM* Chats

### 1:00 - 2:00 PM

~~Tuesday, February 22~~

~~RSVP BY: February 18~~

~~Tuesday, March 22~~

~~RSVP BY: March 18~~

**Tuesday, April 26**

**RSVP BY: April 22**

**Tuesday, May 24**

**RSVP BY: May 20**

**Tuesday, June 28**

**RSVP BY: June 24**



**ZOOM CHAT ASL VLOG:**

<https://youtu.be/OBdXcnYlhBo>

**Want a *Zoom* Guide for a Computer/  
Cell Phone/iPad?**

Learn how to:

- ◆ Download *Zoom*
- ◆ Join/Leave a meeting
- ◆ Gallery View vs. Speaker View
- ◆ Pin a screen



**Contact Denise Paro**

**508-762-1164 (VP)**

Email: [dparo@centerlw.org](mailto:dparo@centerlw.org)

**RSVP to get the Zoom link!**  
**Zoom links emailed**  
**Tuesday mornings.**

**RSVP HERE:** <https://forms.gle/fm3J1gPihpzcDK1A>



**Questions? Contact Denise Paro**  
**508-762-1164 (VP) Email:** [dparo@centerlw.org](mailto:dparo@centerlw.org)

# Healthy Relationship SUPPORT GROUP

## FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY

**YWCA, CLW and ODSC  
are here for you.**

Join us for discussion about:

- personal empowerment
- self-advocacy
- healthy relationships with others

ASL and Deaf interpreters will be provided. Please request CART 2 weeks in advance.

*A collaboration with the Center for Living & Working, Inc. and Our Deaf Survivors Center, Inc.*

**\*MUST RSVP** to get the Zoom links.



### **DATES & TOPICS**

**1:00 - 2:30 PM via Zoom**

January 5, 2022

Healthy Relationships Kick-Off & Terminology by CLW

February 2, 2022

How to be an Ally by YWCA

March 2, 2022

Co-parenting/Parallel Parenting by ODSC

April 6, 2022

Respecting Boundaries by YWCA

May 4, 2022

Communication Abuse by CLW

**NEXT!**

June 1, 2022

A Survivor's Story by ODSC

**TO RSVP and for more information, contact Denise Paro  
at: [dparo@centerlw.org](mailto:dparo@centerlw.org) or 508-556-1600.**





invites you to join virtual presentation:

## JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT MASSHEALTH!



- Are you eligible for *MassHealth*?
- Do you have questions about *MassHealth* eligibility?
- How can the *My Ombudsman* program help *MassHealth* members?
- Do you have questions about *MassHealth* coverage?

**When:** Monday, May 9, 2022

**Time:** 2pm to 4pm

**Where:** Zoom



**Hannah Frigand**

*Director, Education and Enrollment Services*



**Lori Siedman**

*Director of Deaf Services*



**RSVP BY MAY 5TH, 2022**

Register online here: <https://forms.gle/cuc4PsALQZyUzBu47>

*ASL interpreters and CART will be provided!*

For any other Communication Access, please contact us **by April 22, 2022**

Questions? Contact Denise Paro at [DParo@centerlw.org](mailto:DParo@centerlw.org) or VP 508-762-1164



## National Deaf LGBTQ Awareness Week!

April 4—10, 2022

<https://deaf-lgbtqweek.wordpress.com/>

<https://fb.watch/cdgz8GWSRp/>



### MISSED A *WHAT'S UP* NEWSLETTER?

***Past issues of newsletters are on our website!***

VISIT: [HTTPS://WWW.CENTERLW.ORG/SERVICES/DEAF-HARD-OF-HEARING/](https://www.centerlw.org/services/deaf-hard-of-hearing/)

NOTE: 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)
Rosemary Moreira	Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	508-762-1166 (VP)
Kim White	Staff Interpreter	508-755-1042 (Voice); 508-283-1036 (VP)
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](http://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>