

July 14, 2022



Empowering  
Independence

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



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

## Welcome Jonathan to our DHILS Team!

Bonjour! I am **Jonathan Vanderschrick**, your new Deaf Skills Trainer at CLW!

I am beyond excited to be part of the DHILS team. I'm grateful for the opportunity to meet and work with you.

I was born and raised in Belgium. I can read and write in French, Dutch, and English. I also know several sign languages. I enjoy traveling, camping, hiking, working out, gardening, and spending quality time with family.

My goal is to empower Deaf and hard of hearing people to have access to the services and support they seek at DHILS.

I look forward to connecting with you soon!



## P-EBT Continues Through Summer



**P-EBT through the summer!** This program supports more than 500,000 children. In addition to *Summer Eats* sites, P-EBT helps families get food when kids are out of school.

**Summer Eats website:** <https://www.doe.mass.edu/cnp/nprograms/sfsp/>



**SCAM WARNING:** People are getting scam text messages that their P-EBT benefits have been blocked. The text says to call a number and give their P-EBT card number. **This message is not from DTA.**

**DTA text messages:**

- are only sent from **382-674** and
- say to call the Assistance Line (877-382-2363) or EBT Customer Service Line (800-997-2555).

**Never give your personal information or your EBT/P-EBT card number to people calling you that you don't know.**

## MCDHH Updates



### Staffing Announcements

**Janay Mitchell**, MCDHH's Business Office Coordinator for the past eight years, is now the **Human Resources Liaison** (started June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022). We are pleased to support her continued growth and development with MCDHH and are grateful for her work and dedication to our constituents and staff. She will report directly to Deputy Commissioner Sehin Mekuria.



Janay is a native of Monroe, Louisiana. Her family discovered her deafness at a young age. She grew up unaware of the Deaf community before her family moved to Massachusetts in 2000. She attended Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the EDCO program at Newton North High School.

She is a Rochester Institute of Technology graduate with a B.S. in Business Administration - Management and received her master's degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Civic Government & Non-Profits from Bridgewater State University in 2021.

Janay also completed two years of Deaf Interpreting studies. She strives to serve as a mentor to deaf and hard-of-hearing high school students and individuals. Janay is the proud mother of a beautiful and energetic eight-year-old daughter, Journee. She loves spending quality time with family, experimenting with various recipes, and traveling.



**Omar Olazabal** has been selected as the **Lead Recovery Coach Supervisor**, effective June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. He will report directly to SUD Program Supervisor Karran Larson.

Omar is a Certified Addiction and Recovery Coach. He has many years of experience coaching individuals and families and supporting their recovery journey from the effects of addiction and mental health challenges.

Omar previously worked at MCDHH as a Case Manager and in the CATTS Department, as well as supporting the youth summer intern program in collaboration with Mass Rehabilitation Commission (MRC).

Omar is passionate about advocacy and ensuring that deaf and hard of hearing have equitable access to treatment through multiple recovery pathways.

## In Memoriam

**Winchell MacDonald Moore**, 91, of Hadley, Massachusetts, beloved husband of Ruth Moore, passed away on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at home. Our condolences to his family.

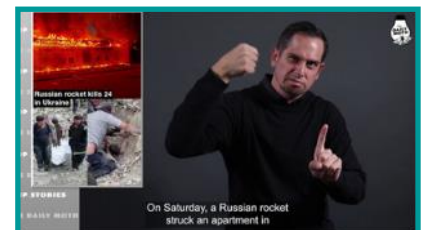


<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/gazettenet/name/winchell-moore-obituary?id=35273327>

## Daily Moth Updates

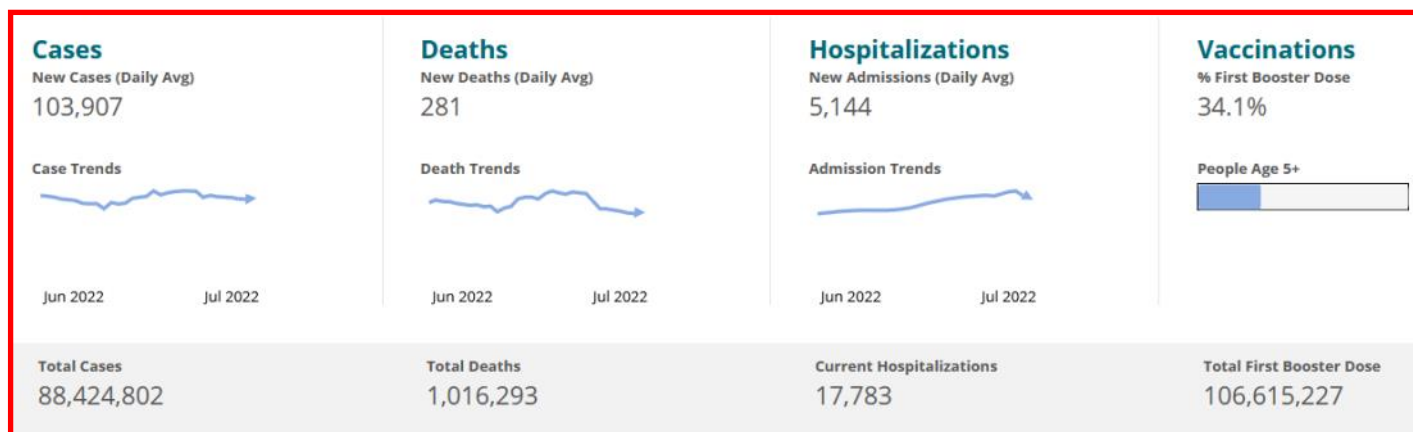


<https://www.dailymoth.com/blog?category=TOP%20STORIES>



# COVID-19 Updates

## United States at a Glance



## COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Ages 6 months — 4 year olds

Children ages 6 months — 4 years old who live in Massachusetts can now get the COVID-19 vaccine. ***The vaccine is safe and effective.*** You don't need an ID or insurance to get it. **Ask your doctor what is best for your child.**

Video: [https://youtu.be/Lj2c1uhFG\\_w](https://youtu.be/Lj2c1uhFG_w)

### Who should get a COVID-19 vaccine?

All children age 6 months — 5 years old.

Learn more here:

- [www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccinations-for-children-ages-6-months-to-4-years-old](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccinations-for-children-ages-6-months-to-4-years-old)
- [6 Things to Know about COVID-19 Vaccination for Children](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination for Children and Teens](#)



## More COVID-19 Resources & Information

**Long COVID or Post-COVID Conditions**  
Click [here](#).



**Know your COVID-19 Community Level**  
Click [here](#).



**Immunocompromised?**  
**Have a plan!**  
Click [here](#).



**COVID-19 Travel Information**  
Click [here](#).



**MORE INFORMATION ON COVID-19 AT:**

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

## NEED PPE? COVID-19 HOME TESTS?

- Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer or at-home COVID-19 tests

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

**LIMITED  
SUPPLY**





# CLW Zoom Movie



July  
28th



**CLW bag  
for  
Attendees**



Are you a current consumer of CLW? Join us! CLW's IL Department will be hosting a viewing of the Wonder Woman 1984 on July 28th, 2022 at 1pm via Zoom!

All current consumers that RSVP and attend the movie via Zoom, will receive a CLW bag for attending the movie via Zoom.

Please RSVP by:  
Friday July 22nd, 2022  
(A link to the movie will be sent to the e-mail provided.)



Contact Noelle to RSVP:  
[nbalutis@centerlw.org](mailto:nbalutis@centerlw.org)  
508-471-5599

\*Closed Captioning will be provided



## 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?

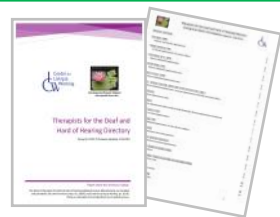
Click [this link](#) to confirm your interest and eligibility and our team will contact you promptly.

Please contact [UMassDisabilityStudy@gmail.com](mailto:UMassDisabilityStudy@gmail.com) with any questions

Learn more here: <https://arcsapps.umassmed.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=D99C37XPLL>

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

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



## 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)
Jonathan Vanderschrick	Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	508-762-1350 (VP)
Kim White	Staff Interpreter	508-755-1042 (Voice); 508-283-1036 (VP)

## Contact Us!

Center for Living & Working, Inc.

*Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services Department*

Videophone: 508-762-1164

Voice/T\*TY: 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>