

April 6, 2023



Empowering Independence

CENTER FOR LIVING & WORKING, INC.

WHAT'S UP?



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

We hope to see you at our Open House!

Thursday April 27th!

Guided tours of the new suite will be provided every 30 min



Spanish Interpreters at 5pm
ASL Interpreters at 5:30pm



JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, April 27th
4:00-6:00pm

18 Chestnut Street
Suite 540
Worcester, MA 01608

RSVP: Kristina at
774-437-8441
kreid@centerlw.org

RSVP to Kristina at: 774-437-8441 or kreid@centerlw.org



COVID-19 Updates

United States at a Glance

Cases Total

104,137,196

Case Trends

Deaths Total

1,125,366

Death Trends

Current Hosp.

14,075

Admission Trends

16.5% of People with Updated Booster Dose



COVID-19 Vaccines & Boosters

Stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

State-Funded Extra SNAP Payments

Due to the end of Federal COVID SNAP benefits and rising food costs, Massachusetts will provide 3 more SNAP benefits. These state-funded extra SNAP payments will arrive on: April 7, May 2, and June 2, 2023.

Payments will be:

- a *minimum amount of \$38 a month* and
- *up to 40% of the difference between your household's maximum benefit amount for your household size and your regular monthly benefit amount.*



You may qualify for an increase in benefits if:

- Someone in your SNAP household (age 60 or older, or has a disability) pays \$35/month for medical costs,
- Your housing costs (rent/mortgage) have gone up, and
- You're working, looking for work, or in school **and** have child or disabled adult care costs.

Tell DTA about any changes by:

- Uploading information on the free mobile app or online portal [DTA Connect](#),
- Call the DTA Assistance Line at: 877-382-2363,
- Visit a local DTA office (<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-transitional-assistance/locations>),
- Work with a [SNAP outreach partner](#).

For more information visit: [Mass.gov/ExtraCOVIDSNAP](https://www.mass.gov/ExtraCOVIDSNAP)

MCDHH News



Anthony Harrison will be the *Referral Services Supervisor* for the Interpreter/Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) referral staff and operations of the referral department and related activities.

MCDHH's FY24 Budget Testimony

“MCDHH is emphasizing not only accessibility but usability to an increasingly communicatively diverse audience...the FY24 House 1 budget (at 9.9 Million, a 16% increase) will support our efforts to consistently and proactively provide these vitally important services and strengthen our community partnerships. We continue to make Massachusetts synonymous with leadership in the areas of communication access, integration of accessible technology, training our diverse communities so they can compete on an equal footing, and above all, a commitment to recognize that each of us has a part to play in the foundations of an equitable society.”

- Dr. Opeoluwa Sotanwa, *MCDHH Commissioner*

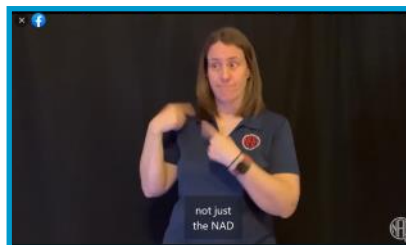


MCDHH's FY24 Budget Testimony at the Joint Committee on Ways & Means Hearing [03/21/2023]

Deaf History Month [April]

Message from *National Association of the Deaf* President:

Our Deaf History should be preserved like any other history. We have so much history - each and every one of us, not just the NAD as a deaf civil rights organization since 1880 - it's you, your classmate, your state association, your organization, your sign language dialects and variations, your deaf doctor, your deaf carpenter, etc... we all contribute to deaf history. And our Deaf history should be honored like others. And THAT's what we're celebrating April 1-30, our Deaf history.



<https://fb.watch/jIo89n34fa/>





Phase 2 MassHealth Redeterminations

STARTING APRIL 1, 2023

- ALL members will be renewed
- Renewal will be between:
April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024



UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

- Make sure *MassHealth* has your correct:
 - address
 - phone number
 - email



READ ALL YOUR MAIL

- *MassHealth* renewal notice will be sent in a **BLUE** envelope
- Other important forms may be sent in white envelopes



IMPORTANT!



REPLY BEFORE THE DEADLINE

- Renewal forms will have a **deadline**
- Fill out and send the forms **before** the deadline



Center for Living & Working, Inc.
18 Chestnut Street, Suite 540
Worcester, MA 01608





April Showers bring May Flowers comes from a poem

Tornados are more common in Spring



Meteorological Start Date
march 1st

Meteorological End Date
MAY 31ST

Spring Equinox starts 6 months of daylight at the North Pole



FACTS ABOUT

SPRING

Ducks hatch in Spring



March April May

The Chinese New Year is a celebration of Spring according to Lunar Calendar



The Groundhog predicts if there is going to be an early Spring



Honeybees swarm in Spring



Thousands of people visit Chichen Itza in Spring to see a snake-shaped shadow

The Great Sphinx was built to point directly at the sun on the Spring Equinox



Spring is marked by the opening of the cherry blossoms in Japan

Tulips are one of the first flowers to bloom in Spring



Astronomical Start Date

Astronomical End Date

March 20th

June 22nd



MADEWITHHAPPY.COM

Worcester Parent Guide to Community Resources

[CLICK HERE FOR ENGLISH GUIDE](#)



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/2022/07/WHATS-UP-NEWSLETTER/](https://www.centerlw.org/2022/07/whats-up-newsletter/)



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)
VACANT	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!



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

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



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

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