

August 4, 2022



Empowering Independence

CENTER FOR LIVING & WORKING, INC.

WHAT'S UP?



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services



New "988" Number

Now dialing "988" will send calls to the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**. Directly connect and get support for:

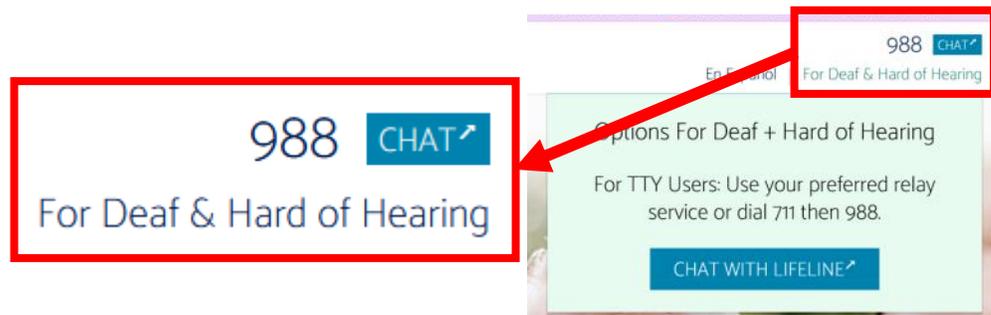
- Substance use issues
- Suicidal crisis
- Mental health-related distress.



When you call, text, or chat 988, you will connect with a trained counselor. These counselors will listen to callers, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources as needed.

The current **Lifeline** phone number (1-800-273-8255) is still available!

For more information visit: www.988lifeline.org



MCDHH Updates



After-Hours Emergency Services

MCDHH is continuing its **PILOT After-Hours Emergency Referral Service Program** until *at least January 31, 2023*. During that time, interpreters will continue to be paid a small stipend to be on-call for medical, mental health and legal emergencies Monday – Friday 5 pm – 8:45 am and 24/7 on weekends and holidays.

During regular business hours, our CART and Interpreter Referral Team will handle any and all emergency requests made to MCDHH.

During the extended PILOT period, MCDHH will be continuing to collect, track and analyze data to determine the level of need, and to use the data to support the creation of a permanent After-Hours Emergency Service Program.

Until January 31, 2023, if you need communication access for a medical, mental health or legal emergency after regular business hours, on a holiday or over the weekend, please call: 1-800-249-9949



National Association of the Deaf "Best & Worst States for ASL Access to Governors' COVID-19 Press Briefings"

NAD ranks Massachusetts among the Top Five in the country and as one of the leaders in the utilization of Deaf Interpreters. "MCDHH is grateful to Governor Baker and Secretary Sudders for their transformative and inclusive leadership in making Massachusetts one of the most accessible states for Deaf/HH. We also convey our immense gratitude for our hard-working MCDHH staff, interpreters and our Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities." Commissioner Sotonwa

Read the full report [here](#).

Baby Formula Shortage

There is now a baby formula shortage, which is hitting local families hard. A *Worcester Task Group* of Parent, City, Community and Legislative Leaders are meeting to try and address this need.

Need formula, but can't find it?

- Contact the **Worcester Family Resource Center of YOU Inc.** They are collecting information on where local supplies are as they become available.

Worcester Family Resource Center of YOU, Inc.
An Affiliate of Seven Hills Foundation
20 Cedar Street, Worcester, MA 01609

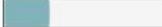
508-796-1411

<https://www.sevenhills.org/programs/worcester-family-resource-center>



COVID-19 Updates

United States at a Glance

Cases Total	91,528,269	Deaths Total	1,026,723	Current Hosp. Admission Trends	37,518	34.5% of People 5+ with First Booster
Case Trends		Death Trends				

TLC Continues its Work for Vaccine Education Outreach

TLC is thrilled to announce they have received a \$50,000 grant from *Health Care For All (HCFA)* to continue their work with the **Vaccine Equity Initiative**. The grant will allow TLC to provide outreach, education and resources about the COVID-19 vaccine through the end of the year!

They have a few projects already underway, so be on the lookout for new videos and resources soon!

<https://www.tldeaf.org/covid-19-vaccine-education-initiative>

Watch VLOG: <https://youtu.be/oLe6H8qInOI>



MORE INFORMATION ON COVID-19 AT:
<https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-updates-and-information>

NEED PPE?

- Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer

Contact **Denise Paro** at: dparo@centerlw.org or 508-556-1600.

LIMITED SUPPLY



Say Cheese!

This 60-second film/commercial was made by a Deaf student and a hearing student at RIT/NTID. They entered the idea for their film, *Say Cheese*, in the Coca-Cola Refreshing Films contest, and they won!

Say Cheese is now being shown at Cinemark and AMC theaters.

Watch here: <https://youtu.be/XPGK4GrMQdw>



 <p>FYI Friday: SHINE Program 7/15/2022</p>	 <p>COVID WORKSHOP WITH DR. ANDY TAO 7/15/2022</p>	 <p>FYI FRIDAY: MassEDP 7/1/2022</p>
<p>FYI Friday SHINE Program vlog 24 views • 2 weeks ago</p>	<p>COVID Workshop with Andy Tao (June 28, 2022) 9 views • 2 weeks ago</p>	<p>FYI Friday: MassEDP 24 views • 2 weeks ago</p>

DEAF, Inc. VLOGS

Watch VLOGS about different resources here:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/deafinc215>

Protect Your Benefits From Skimming

What is Skimming?

Skimming is a type of theft. Thieves put an overlay on a store's card-swiping machine to copy EBT, credit and debit card information. The information is then used to make fake EBT, debit or credit cards. The fake cards are called clones. Cloned cards are used to steal money from real accounts.

Skimming can happen **anywhere** you swipe your EBT, credit or debit card. Most of the time, that means EBT or Credit Card machines and ATMs.

What to look for:

EBP/Credit Card Machine: look for an overlay. It's bigger than the original machine and may hide parts of the unit.



ATM Machine: an overlay device can be attached to the card reader/keypad.



Read more here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/protect-your-benefits-from-skimming>

Steps to Re-PIN Your EBT Card

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7





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

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/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>