

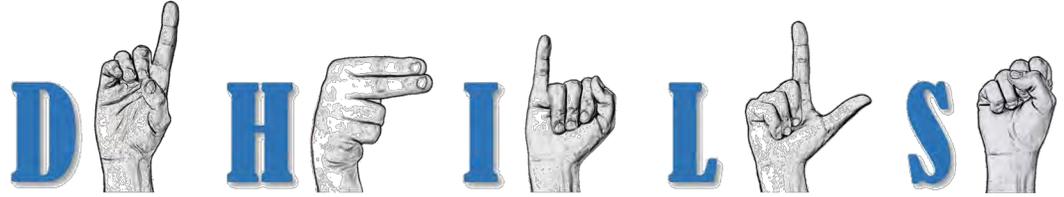
October 2025



Empowering Independence

CENTER FOR LIVING & WORKING, INC.

WHAT'S UP?



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

## International Deaf Awareness Party

On September 25th we celebrated International Deaf Awareness Week with a party. As always, there was plenty of food. Rosemary Moreira [from Brazil] and Ying Li [from China] shared their experiences from their countries including traditional dress, Deaf culture examples, and favorite foods and games. The event wrapped up with demonstrating different signs from their countries' sign languages. It was fun and fascinating to see how similar some signs are while others are VERY different! We all learned a lot!



We hope you will all join us for an event in the future.



# Governor Healey Proclamation Recognizes September as Deaf Awareness Month

MCDHH is proud to premiere a new Proclamation, which officially recognizes September as **Deaf Awareness Month** in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We extend our gratitude to Governor Maura Healey for issuing this Proclamation and to Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Kiame Mahaniah for reciting this Proclamation for the first time in the ASL vlog below.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX1Cwct7zec>

**Vlog Transcript:** <https://bit.ly/481VWsT>

With this Proclamation, we are proud to acknowledge the #Deaf and #HardOfHearing community as one which contributes significantly to the cultural, social, and economic well being of Massachusetts.

**View the Proclamation in its entirety:** <https://mass.gov/news/read-governor-healeys-2025-deaf-awareness-month-proclamation>

## Learn More about Deaf Awareness Month



September is Deaf Awareness Month. Even though it's wrapping up, there's still time to celebrate! Have you seen the wonderful stories being shared online by many people, including Sorenson, honoring Deaf people, American Sign Language, and our many contributions?

Deaf people have shaped the world in remarkable ways. Here are just a few innovations you might not know were influenced or created by the Deaf community:

- TTY
- Football huddle
- Baseball signals
- Video Relay Service (VRS)
- Visual/tactile alert systems
- Internet & text messaging (SMS)
- The first alternative Olympics

Click on the ASL video to learn more about these powerful contributions!

[https://vimeo.com/1121658167/7ee2effaaa?share=copy#msdynmkt\\_trackingcontext=a704543b-3312-476c-ab02-ob177bd40000](https://vimeo.com/1121658167/7ee2effaaa?share=copy#msdynmkt_trackingcontext=a704543b-3312-476c-ab02-ob177bd40000)

## Deaflympics coming up!

The 2025 Deaflympics are happening soon! Deaf athletes from around the world are gathering in Tokyo in **November** to compete in many events. Sorenson is sponsoring three of the USA athletes. Follow Sorenson on social media in November to keep up with those athletes and more!



# OCTOBER AWARENESS 2025

## National Pumpkin Seed Day

*First Wednesday in October [10/1/2025]*

- Don't throw away the seeds when you carve your pumpkin!
- Packed with protein, magnesium, and healthy fats.
- Pumpkin seeds have been traced back as far as 7000 BC.



## National Hero Day - 10/8/2025

- Honors **real-life** heroes.
- Heroes can be **anyone** who goes above and beyond to help others - teachers, first responders, a parent, etc.

## National Farmers Day - 10/12/2025]

- Recognizes the men, women, and families who put food in the grocery stores and on our tables every day.
- Farmers also help our economy.



## National Apple Day - 10/21/2025

- Celebrates everything about the apple!
- There are an estimated 7,000 different kinds of apples across the world - Red Delicious, Honeycrisp, Fuji and many more.
- It's important to keep apple orchards open and support local agriculture.

## National Mule Day - 10/26/2025]

- A mule is a cross between a male donkey (jack) and a female horse.
- They are strong, smart, patient, sure-footed, athletic and fast.



# 5 TIPS FOR TRICK-OR-TREAT SAFETY



Kids should always be accompanied by an adult.



Leave a few lights on inside if you leave the house.



Put pets in a safe and secure space.



Avoid driving after dark.



Only trick-or-treat at houses with porch lights on in familiar neighborhoods.

U.S. LawShield\*



## SPOOKY STATISTICS

**70%** of parents do not accompany their children when trick-or-treating.

**2x** more kids are involved in fatal car accidents.

**24%** more property crimes than any other day.





**31**  
DAYS IN THE MONTH

National Pizza Month





Baseball World Series



Yom Kippur



Cosmos & Marigold  
October Flowers

# OCTOBER FUN FACTS



Halloween



Opal Birthstone



Cinnamon Roll Day



National Origami Month



Breast Cancer Awareness Month



AUTUMN  
Autumn Season



Astrology Signs  
Libra    Scorpio



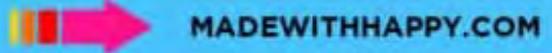
National Popcorn Month



10th Month of The Year



Octopus Day





# Join our team as a: *Deaf Skills Trainer*

**Part-time 28 hours/week** or **Full-time 40 hours/week**

**\$19/hour | Monday-Friday | Hybrid/2-3 office days**

### Apply now if you love to:

- ✓ Work with d/Deaf consumers.
- ✓ Provide: skills training; peer counseling; information & referral; emergency intervention.
- ✓ Advocate for consumers & DHILS.
- ✓ Plan/review independent living goals with consumers.
- ✓ Attend trainings/conferences.
- ✓ Lead workshops/presentations.
- ✓ Do consumer and service reports.
- ✓ Work with individuals with diverse disabilities & cultures.
- ✓ Work independently & as a team.

### Qualifications:

- ✓ High School/equivalent (GED)
- ✓ Bachelor Degree in health/human services, preferred; years of relevant experience may substitute.
- ✓ License and car access for driving in our service area.

### Experience Required:

- ✓ ASL Fluency
- ✓ Minimum 2 years Deaf/Hard of Hearing services relevant work experience, or Deaf/Hard of Hearing community involvement.
- ✓ Computer skills: Microsoft Office; database reporting.

### BENEFITS

#### PART-TIME

**\*\$250 Sign-on Bonus**  
*(\*after 90-day probationary period)*  
**403(b) Retirement**  
**Sick Time**  
**Parking & Mileage Reimbursement**  
**Annual Merit Increases**

#### FULL-TIME

**\*\$250 Sign-on Bonus**  
*(\*after 90-day probationary period)*  
**403(b) Retirement**  
**Health & Dental Insurance**  
**Vacation & Sick Time; & 13 Holidays**  
**Parking & Mileage Reimbursement**  
**Life Insurance**  
**Long Term Disability**  
**Annual Merit Increases**

**APPLY NOW**



Apply and See More Info Here:  
DHILS Deaf Skills Trainer Positions



Interested or Have Questions?  
Email your resume to Emily Patton at:  
[epatton@centerlw.org](mailto:epatton@centerlw.org)

[www.centerlw.org](http://www.centerlw.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/CenterForLivingAndWorking>

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Voice: (508) 798-0350  
TTY: (508) 755-1003

# 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/)

## Questions? Contact your Skills Trainer

Joan Philip	DHILS Director	508-762-1165 (VP)
Priscilla Langone	DHILS Administrative Assistant	508-556-1600 (VP)
Ellen Perkins	DHILS Asst. Manager/Hard of Hearing Skills Trainer	508-502-7576 (Voice); 508-762-1354 (VP)
Rosemary Moreira	Senior Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	508-762-1166 (VP)
Denise Paro	Deaf Skills Trainer (Part-time)	508-762-1021 (VP)
Vacant	Deaf Skills Trainer (Full-time)	
Vacant	Deaf Skills Trainer (Part-time)	
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

TTY: 508-755-1003

[www.CenterLW.org](http://www.CenterLW.org)



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services



CLW: [www.facebook.com/CenterForLivingAndWorking](https://www.facebook.com/CenterForLivingAndWorking)

DHILS Group: [www.facebook.com/groups/clw.dhils](https://www.facebook.com/groups/clw.dhils)