



Independent Living Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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MCDHH contracts with agencies to provide DHILS programs (Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services) at sites throughout the state. The programs provide a peer based, consumer-oriented environment enabling Deaf and hard of hearing persons to increase their independence and achieve their life goals. These programs employ persons who are themselves Deaf, late-deafened, oral deaf, or hard of hearing. Consumers work with Independent Living Specialists to set and achieve their own personal goals for independence with their families and in schools, employment, and the community.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN DHILS PROGRAMS?

Any D/deaf, late-deafened, or hard of hearing person age 18 up is eligible for DHILS services.

HOW ARE DHILS PROGRAMS FUNDED? IS THERE A CHARGE FOR SERVICES?

The eight independent living programs for deaf and hard of hearing people in Massachusetts are funded through state contracts administered by MCDHH. *There is no charge for participation.*

SERVICES OFFERED

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills Training• Peer Mentoring• Advocacy (Individual & Community)• Information & Referral | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outreach and Community Education• Volunteer/Internship Program• Assistive Technology<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Training/Loaner Program |
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- ✓ ASL-fluent DHILS staff;
- ✓ Training on a wide range of independent living skills topics such as the use of assistive technology, self-advocacy, communication skills, how to manage money for daily needs, how to find support groups, how to find housing, etc.;
- ✓ Topical workshops for consumer education;
- ✓ Access to DHILS-based alternative support and recreational groups and activities;
- ✓ Information and referral

FOR MORE INFORMATION

REGIONS

Berkshires

Viability Inc.
703 Housatonic Street, Suite 209
Pittsfield, MA 01201
<https://www.viability.org>
DHILS@viability.org
413-347-4050 VP
413-536-4880 Voice
413-536-4880 Ext. 111 TTY

Northeast

DEAF, Inc. Lawrence
370 Merrimack St.
Riverwalk Building 5, Ste. 205
Lawrence, MA 01843
<http://www.deafinonline.org>
frontdesk@deafinonline.org
617-505-4823 VP/Voice
617-254-4041 TTY/Voice

Boston Metro

DEAF, Inc. Boston Office
50 Hunt Street Suite 200
Watertown MA 02472
<http://www.deafinonline.org>
frontdesk@deafinonline.org
617-505-4823 VP/Voice
617-254-4041 TTY/Voice

North Shore

DEAF, Inc. Salem
35 Congress Street, Suite 220
Salem, MA 01970
<http://www.deafinonline.org>
frontdesk@deafinonline.org
617-505-4823 VP/Voice
617-254-4041 TTY/Voice

Cape Cod and the Islands

DEAF, Inc. Cape Cod & Islands
765 Attucks Ln
Hyannis, MA 02601
<http://www.deafinonline.org>
frontdesk@deafinonline.org
617-505-4823 VP/Voice
617-254-4041 TTY/Voice

Southeast & South Shore

DEAF, Inc. New Bedford
888 Purchase Street, Bay 1
New Bedford, MA 02740
<http://www.deafinonline.org>
frontdesk@deafinonline.org
617-505-4823 VP/Voice
617-254-4041 TTY/Voice

Central Massachusetts

Center for Living & Working (CLW)
Deaf and Hard of Hearing IL Services
18 Chestnut Street Suite 540
Worcester, MA 01608
<http://www.centerlw.org>
Jphilip@centerlw.org
508-762-1164 VP
508-755-1003 TTY
508-798-0350 Voice

Western Massachusetts

Viability Inc.
302 High Street, 4th floor
Holyoke, MA 01040
<https://www.viability.org>
DHILS@viability.org
413-650-5365 VP
413-536-4880 Voice
413-536-4880 Ext. 111 TTY