

# Disability Related Resources

## The Americans with Disabilities Act:

- Learn about the ADA <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-the-americans-with-disabilities-act-ada>
- Employment rights of people with disabilities <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/employment-rights-of-people-with-disabilities>
- ADA rights and grievance procedures <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/americans-with-disabilities-act-rights-and-grievance-procedures>

## US Access Board

- <https://www.access-board.gov/>
- an independent federal agency that promotes equality for people with disabilities through leadership in accessible design and the development of accessibility guidelines and standards.
- Guidelines, trainings, standards, webinars and more!

## Accessibility Requirements for State Facilities:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/accessibility-requirements-for-state-facilities>

## Fair Housing Law:

- <https://www.mass.gov/fair-housing-law>

## The Disability Law Center:

- <https://www.dlc-ma.org/>

617-723-8455

11 Beacon St.

Suite 925

Boston, MA 02108

The Disability Law Center (DLC) is the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agency for Massachusetts. The P&A system is a national network of disability rights agencies investigating abuse and neglect and providing legal representation and other advocacy services to people with disabilities. To aid P&A systems in fulfilling their mandate, Congress gave them extensive access authority.

## Massachusetts Aging & Disability Resource Consortia (ADRC)- Member Agencies

Connect with an Aging & Disability Specialist:

- <https://www.mass.gov/location-details/massachusetts-aging-disability-resource-consortia-adrc-member-agencies>

## Disability Policy Consortium

- <https://www.dpcma.org/>
- Legislative advocacy training, lobbying leadership, info on important issues, holding public officials accountable for enforcement of the ADA

### **Assistive Technology:**

- **EasterSeals of MA:**  
<https://www.easterseals.com/ma/>
- **MassMATCH:** Massachusetts Initiative to Maximize Assistive Technology in Consumers Hands  
[www.MassMATCH.org](http://www.MassMATCH.org)
- **Mass AT Loan:** Assistive Technology Loans, no credit, bad credit  
[www.massatloan.org](http://www.massatloan.org)
- **AT School Share:**  
[www.atschoolshare.org](http://www.atschoolshare.org)  
[schoolshare@massmatch.org](mailto:schoolshare@massmatch.org)
- **Mobility Works:** merged with Ride-Away, wheelchair vans for sale, modify a vehicle, rentals, power wheelchairs and scooters, Rt 1 Norwood  
<https://www.mobilityworks.com/wheelchair-vans-for-sale/massachusetts/>

### **Transportation in Stoughton:**

- **Mass Ride Match:** Search for transportation that is right for you and your needs available in Stoughton  
<https://massridematch.org/regional-list/?key=STOUGHTON&pg=1>
- **Dial-A-BAT**  
<https://www.ridebat.com/dial-a-bat/>
- **Medical Transportation:** MassHealth consumers may be eligible for transportation to medical appointments. Contact your health insurance to inquire about eligibility

### **Stoughton Council on Aging:**

- The purpose of the Stoughton Council on Aging is to develop programs and provide necessary services to Stoughton Seniors aged sixty and over and people with disabilities.
- <https://www.stoughton.org/stoughton-council-aging>
- A **SHINE Counselor** is available for those who need assistance with Health Insurance. 781-344-8882 Ext. 9489
- **OCES serves lunch** at the Senior Center at 11:00AM for a \$2.50 donation. Call Old Colony Elder Services at 508-584-1561 for home delivery.

### **Stoughton Veterans Services**

- The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services is to advocate on the behalf of the Veterans of Stoughton, provide them with quality support services, and direct an emergency financial assistance program for those Veterans and their dependents that are in need.
- <https://www.stoughton.org/veterans-services>

### **Community Living Services:**

- **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission:** The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) helps individuals with disabilities to live and work independently. MRC is responsible for Vocational Rehabilitation, Community Living, and Disability Determination for federal benefit programs. <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-rehabilitation-commission> 617-204-3600
  - **Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP):** provides a range of services for people with traumatic brain injury including individual support for community living, regional service centers, residential supports, case management, recreational programs, substance abuse services, technical assistance and consultation 617-204-3852
  - **Acquired Brain Injury (ABI):** Waiver program includes two home and community based waivers designed to transition and support individuals with ABI from nursing facilities and long-stay hospital settings into community placements (did you know we have an ABI home here in Stoughton!) Supports may include 24/7 residential supports or other services that allow them to move to their own home/apartment or to stay with someone of their choosing. 617-204-3747
  - **Turning 22 (T22):** Provides transition services for young people who have severe physical disability with mobility impairment and need support services after graduating high school or turning 22. Program is based on independent living philosophy that empowers consumers to make decisions about their lives based on informed choice. 617-204-3851
  - **Adult Supported Living (ASL):** Provides case coordination services to individuals with physical disability and secondary disability to assist in managing and organizing their day to day lives, including PCA management. 617-204-3851
  - **Nursing Home Initiative (NHI):** Serves people with developmental disabilities (not eligible for DDS) who are in nursing homes and want to move out (in accordance with the Rolland Class settlement). 617-204-3852
  - **Home Care Assistance Program (HCAP):** Provides homemaking services- assistance with grocery shopping, meal prep, light housekeeping, and laundry- to adults with disabilities whose ability to remain in the community is at risk without such assistance. Must be between the ages of 18-59, living alone (or with others who also cannot complete the tasks), have a medically documented disability, and meet financial eligibility criteria.
  - **Independent Living Centers (ILCs):** MRC contracts with 11 ILCs across the state, serving people of all ages regardless of type of disability. At least 51% of the board and staff of ILCs are persons with disabilities. ILCs provide peer counseling, skills training, info and referral, advocacy, community services, and more.
- **Mass Commission for the Blind (MCB):**
  - MCB services individuals in Massachusetts who are legally blind by providing access to employment opportunities and social rehabilitation with the goal of increasing independence and self-determination.

- <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-for-the-blind>
- **Mass Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH):**
  - MCDHH provides accessible communication, education, and advocacy to consumers and private and public entities so that programs, services, and opportunities throughout Massachusetts are fully accessible to persons who are deaf and hard of hearing.
  - For **interpreter/CART** requests are being processed online, visit <https://www.mcdhh.net/request/> to submit your request
  - <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-for-the-deaf-and-hard-of-hearing>
- **Department of Developmental Services:**
  - The Department of Developmental Services provides supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorder to enhance opportunities to become fully engaged members of their community.
  - DDS works with adults to connect them with an array of employment and day program supports, community living and other residential aid, and family support.
  - DDS works with children to provide family support and supplement educational services through specialized programs.
  - Services are individualized and planned using a person-centered approach.
  - <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-developmental-services>
- **Frail Elder Waiver (FEW):** The Frail Elder Waiver (FEW) is a Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver designed to make supports available to eligible frail elders aged 60 and older who meet the level of care for a nursing facility but prefer to remain in the community.
  - (800) AGE-INFO ((800) 243-4636)
  - <https://contactus.800ageinfo.com/FindAgency.aspx>
  - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/frail-elder-waiver-information-for-applicants-and-participants>

## Support for Adults with Hearing Loss

- **Association for Late Deafened Adults**
  - <https://alda.org/>
  - The mission of the Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA) is to support the empowerment of deafened people. Late-Deafened Adults are people who have lost the ability to understand speech with or without hearing aids after acquiring spoken language. ALDA is committed to providing a support network and a sense of belonging by sharing our unique experiences, challenges and coping strategies, helping one another find practical solutions and emotional support, and working together with other organizations and service providers for our common good.

- **Hearing loss Association of America**
  - <https://www.hearingloss.org/>
  - Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation's leading organization representing consumers with hearing loss. The programs and events we offer are designed to focus on you—the person. HLAA strives to give people the tools they need to live more successfully with hearing loss and to show them they do not have to face hearing loss alone.
- **Deaf Inc.**
  - <https://www.deafinonline.org/>
  - DEAF, Inc. inspires people to achieve personal and professional goals through accessible programs and services.
- **Described and Captioned Media Program**
  - <http://www.dcmp.org/>
  - funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education and free to anyone. There is a very large number of videos available that are either described and/or captioned. Some of the videos now have ASL available as well.

#### **Protective Services:**

- **Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC):** 24/7 Hotline Number to report suspected abuse/neglect for persons with disabilities ages 18-59 is 1-800-426-9009
- **Elder Abuse Hotline:** 24/7 Hotline Number to report suspected abuse/neglect for elders ages 60+ call 1-800-922-227
- **DPH Division of Health Care Quality Complaint Unity:** for reporting abuse of patients in healthcare settings, reporting mistreatment, misappropriation of property of a patient in a nursing home/rest home- 1-800-462-5540
- **Department of Children and Families (DCF):** reporting abuse or neglect of a child infant to 18 years old- **\*If a child is in immediate danger, call 911\*** After hours, or on weekends, call the Child-Risk-Hotline 1-800-792-5200. During regular business hours, call town's serving area office (for Stoughton, call Brockton area office @ 508-894-3700)

#### **Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:**

- Educational Advocacy/Legal representation
  - <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/links/Advocacy.html>
- Individualized Education Program (IEP)
  - <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/iep/>
  - Find information on process, forms, notices, information, referral, etc.
- 504s:
  - <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/links/sec504.html>
  - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (the precursor of ADA) protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities, including schools, that receive federal funds. Section 504 provides that: "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or

be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance . . ." The meaning of this protection as regards students with disabilities

- **Federation for Children with Special Needs**

- <https://fcsn.org/>
- The Federation currently oversees over 15 projects related to supporting families whose children have special educational needs and special healthcare needs, as well as families of culturally and economically underserved populations by promoting family engagement within general education.

- **Massachusetts Advocates for Children**

- <https://www.massadvocates.org/>
- Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC) is a nonprofit children's advocacy organization in downtown Boston. We work with students, families, communities, and at the policy level to remove barriers to education for children across Massachusetts.

- **Wright's Law**

- <http://wrightslaw.com/>
- based in the D.C. area and have a regular newsletter, workshops, and website information pertaining to special education.

#### **Mental Health Services in Stoughton:**

- **Search on Psychology Today:**

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/ma/stoughton>

- **Abelard Psychotherapy & Associates:** (781) 344-0057450, Pearl St, Stoughton, MA 02072 <http://www.abelardpsychotherapy.com/>

- **Empowerment Counseling and Psychotherapy Center:** (866) 754-4973, 1629 Central St #3, Stoughton, MA 02072

<http://www.empowermentcpc.com/home/umain/Defaultmain.aspx>

- **Thriveworks Counseling:** (781) 318-8080, 1044 Central St Unit 202, Stoughton, MA 02072, <https://thriveworks.com/stoughton-counseling/stoughton-counselors/>

- **Stoughton Youth Commission:** Accepts self-referrals as well as referrals directly from parents or guardians and from the Department of Children and Families. Please call 781-341-2252 if you need counseling <https://www.stoughton.org/stoughton-youth-commission/pages/counseling>

- **Crisis Intervention**

- **Emergency Services Program (ESP):** The statewide Emergency Services Program (ESP) provides 24/7/365 crisis help for behavioral health crises – without you having to go to a hospital emergency room.
  - Services are provided at no cost to those with MassHealth (Medicaid), Medicare, or people without health insurance. Some people with commercial insurance can also get these services. Call your local crisis team to learn more.

- You'll talk to a behavioral health professional who can help you. They will work with you to determine the best plan for your unique situation. A team member may come meet you where you are – at your home, a hospital, or another location in the community. Some teams also have walk-in locations you can visit
- **Stoughton's provider is: Community Counseling of Bristol County (CCBC) 24-hour access number: 1-877-670-9957**