



Parent/Guardian Support & Resource Pages

Week Ending June 11, 2021 



CASE Collaborative Community News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been a challenging year with the adjustments in learning formats and schedules relating to the re-opening phases this past school year. CASE is grateful to families for your cooperation, support, and patience during this unprecedented year. I am looking forward to next school year and hope the roll out of the COVID vaccines will help students and their families return in the fall with more certainty and a better sense of normalcy.

Although many of your children will be attending Extended School Year programming at CASE, there are still opportunities in the greater Boston area to supplement and enrich your child's summer programming. Check out the Social and Recreational section in the Resource Pages for some fun happenings! There are both in-person and virtual opportunities available.

As always, I value your feedback and would welcome any commentary that would be helpful in bringing meaningful resources to families.

Having said this, today's installment of the CASE Family Support and Resource Pages will be the last for this school year. Summer months for schools and organizations who support children with special needs and their families create an opportunity to regroup and start planning for the fall.

I look forward to the 2021-2022 school year in resuming my role as Resource Assistant at the CASE Collaborative. I have said this before, "It takes a Village", and I am very grateful to have this opportunity to share with families.

Be well,

Sue Campbell
Resource Assistant
CASE Collaborative

Wishing all of you a safe, fun-filled and relaxing summer!





Community Workshops and Conferences



Demystifying Legislative Advocacy

When: June 14, 2021, Jun 21, 2021, Jun 28, 2021 | Mon 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Virtually via Zoom

Join MassFamilies for a Three session Lunch-and-Learn series via. zoom with Kathleen Amaral, Karen Claudio, and Ebony McGlynn from MassFamilies. Series begins Monday, June 7th, with drop-in “get to know one another” opportunities through a private Facebook groupand curriculum days on June 14th, 21st and 28th

Over the course of three one hour weekly “lunch and learn” sessions, participants will:

- * Learn about the Disability Rights & Family Support movement relative to advocacy & systems change.
- * Strengthen their ability to articulate their "WHY" through effective storytelling & the importance of building networks of support along the way.
- * Learn tips, tricks, and best practices for legislative advocacy at a local, state, and federal level.

This series will happen over a zoom platform, with mid-session reflection activities and opportunity for group discussion—private Facebook group throughout the series. Zoom Credentials will be emailed closer to the training date. Register here

<https://massfamilies-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkceyqqzosHdNFwMr7itPLvZQ0eYqsbD3D>



Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA): Mental Health First Aid Training

When: June 14, 2021/Youth & June 18, 2021/Adult

Where: Virtually via Zoom

Virtual Mental Health First Aid is a two-part, eight-hour certification training that involves:

*Two-hour, self-paced, online prework on Mental Health First Aid topics and brief training on the online Zoom platform, which is used to host the live part of the class.

*Six hour, instructor-lead, live training on Zoom.

They will be offering two types of training, one that is focused on youth and one that is focused on adults. The Youth MHFA is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring adults how to help someone who is developing a mental health or substance use problem or crisis.

The Adult MHFA helps community members learn about risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, and gives them skills and strategies to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Registration is required.

To register, please click on a link below for the class that interests you.

Register for the Youth class on June 14th

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfnO_tlxcx7kZmLpmHwRPlt7eznU_Cs6O6t0dOAwMvkiqS6bg/viewform

Register for the Adult class on June 18th [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwTq-](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwTq-Mg51yGHGZiqo0ZijrJT7sD1ffVj_0PvPw1vrgcRPEcQ/viewform)

[Mg51yGHGZiqo0ZijrJT7sD1ffVj_0PvPw1vrgcRPEcQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwTq-Mg51yGHGZiqo0ZijrJT7sD1ffVj_0PvPw1vrgcRPEcQ/viewform)

Please direct all registration questions to Kerry Mello: KMello@challiance.org

Friends of Lurie presents



LURIE CENTER FOR AUTISM



Join us Virtually

June 16th, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

for a discussion with
Lisa Nowinski, PhD

Let's Talk About Puberty, Sexuality, & Sexual Behaviors

Parents and caregivers often feel uncomfortable, unprepared, and unable to effectively support healthy sexual development in autistic children. The Lurie Center for Autism invites you to join Dr. Lisa Nowinski for an open discussion about how to support your child's sexual health. We will tackle issues such as building healthy boundaries, preparing for puberty, and supporting healthy sexuality and sexual behaviors across the lifespan. Come with questions, leave with answers!



*Lisa Nowinski, PhD
Clinical Director-Non Physician Services
Lurie Center for Autism*

Registration is Required for this Virtual Event

Email: LurieCenter@partners.org or call: 781-860-1700

Event link will be emailed to participants one day before event

What do I do need to know about MassHealth?

Virtual Event for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, LateDeafened, and DeafBlind Community

When? Wednesday, June 16th from 10am – 12noon

Where? <https://zoom.us/j/91973204586?pwd=K2o5M2pQWDJGL2FjdN0SHU4OE16Zz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 919 7320 4586

Passcode: 609244



ASL, CDI & CART provided!

Learn:

- Can I get MassHealth?
- How can I apply for MassHealth?
- What does MassHealth cover? Do I need to pay?
- Who can help me sign up for MassHealth?
- Who do I ask if I have problems or questions?



Presented by:



<http://www.hcfama.org>



<http://www.myombudsman.org>

Speakers:

- **Hannah Frigand**, HCFA Director of Education and Enrollment Services
Lori Siedman, My Ombudsman Director of Deaf Services

Bring your questions!

Have a question about your or a family member's MassHealth? Hannah and Lori can set up a VP appointment after the event.

If you have questions or need additional accommodations, contact:

Lori Siedman, My Ombudsman Director of Deaf Services

LSiedman@myombudsman.org

Videophone: 339-224-6831



Registration is Now Open for FCSN's Summer 2021 PCTI Sessions!

When: June 21-25, 2021 | 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Format: Virtual Synchronous (live) Meetings and Asynchronous (presentation recordings and online learning module activities)

Great news! Registration is now open for the Federation for Children with Special Needs' Parent Consultant Training Institute Summer 2021 sessions. Our online Summer 2021 5-Day Intensive synchronous (live) session will run take place June 21-25, 2021, from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Not available to join the live sessions? We will also offer an asynchronous option which will include recordings of presentations along with interactive learning modules. Our online asynchronous session will take place over four weeks from July 7 – August 2, 2021. Please click on this link to learn more about the upcoming Summer PCTI offerings! <https://fcsn.org/ptic/parent-consultant-training/schedule/> Website link to PCTI: FCSN | PTIC | Parent Consultant Training Institute (PCTI) <https://fcsn.org/ptic/parent-consultant-training>



REAL TALK: Conversations with Black and Brown Families

When: Various Dates | 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm (see below)

Format: Virtually via zoom

Join us for a six part series where we will explore the different kinds of family make-up in our communities via the lens of Black and Brown guest speakers. This series will highlight the knowledge and experiences of those caring for and/or providing services to someone with disabilities and/or complex medical needs. Please come explore, learn, and share with us how to nourish your family network! See series schedule below.

*Thursday, June 24, 2021: Ala Ochumare – Differently Abled Youth and LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion

*Wednesday, June 30, 2021: Moetsky Tiano – Guardianship & Sibling Support

*Wednesday, July 14, 2021: Danielle Eddins – Prioritizing Mental Wellness

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021: Jaya Pandey – Embracing Your Culture

*Wednesday, August 4, 2021: Keila Torres: Diverse families and alternate family supports.

This specific session will be in Spanish with English translation.

*Wednesday, August 18, 2021: Cynthia Laine – Mindful Advocacy

Link: <https://massfamilies-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkdeCuqTwqH9F0N51mkC6R33mi5q122mF8>

There is no cost to you thanks to The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and private donations.

This series will happen over a zoom platform and zoom Credentials will be emailed closer to the conversation date.

Register Today! <https://massfamilies-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkdeCuqTwqH9F0N51mkC6R33mi5q122mF8>



Seizure First Aid And Recognition

When: June 24, 2021 | Thu 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Format: On-line

Do you know someone with epilepsy? Would you know what to do if they had a seizure with you? This is a one hour, online class. You will learn about different types of seizures and what to do to help and keep someone safe. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Epilepsy Foundation New England is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to help people and families affected by epilepsy in New England. They serve the Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island communities affected by epilepsy. Register here

<https://epilepsynewengland.org/events>

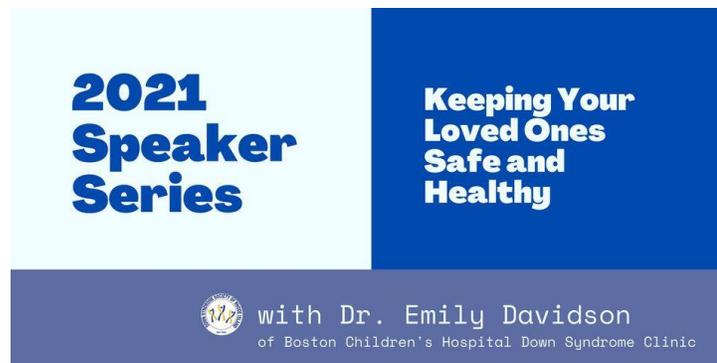


AANE's Virtual Summer 2021 Conference Agenda

When: June 26, 2021 | Sat 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Format: Virtual

Join us for a star-studded lineup of actors and professionals in the industry as they discuss what it takes to create authentic autistic representation in TV and film. From scriptwriting to casting and directing, creating authentic autistic characters for television & film is a collaborative process both on and off screen. Join us for a star-studded lineup of actors and professionals in the industry as they discuss what it takes to create authentic autistic representation in TV and film. This conference will be live streamed, and a recording will be available for registrants to access through July 30. To learn more and for registration visit <https://www.aane.org/training-education/summer-2021-conference/>



Keeping Your Loved Ones Safe and Healthy

When: July 28, 2021 | Wed 7:00 pm

Format: On-line

Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island. Free and open to the public. Join in to learn more about how to keeping your loved ones safe and healthy. About the speaker: Dr. Emily Davidson is with the Boston Children's Hospital Down syndrome Clinic, an MPH Physician in Pediatrics, Complex Care Services, Assistant Professor in Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School.

To register or for more information visit www.facebook.com/events/758399181483860 or contact 401) 463-5751, info@dssri.org *information provided at www.spedchildmass.com



Transition and Beyond (ages 14-22)



Adult Family Care Virtual Workshop

When: June 16, 2021 | Wed 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Come and learn about the Adult Family Care Program. If you have a loved one age 16 or older who has MassHealth, you may be eligible to receive funds and support through the Adult Family Care Program. Beth Gutierrez LICSW, Program Director for the Advocates AFC Program, will walk us through eligibility requirements and what this program could provide for your family. Come join us on zoom to learn more about this program. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://advocates-telehealth.zoom.us/j/98584176359?pwd=VHlySzZYRmtUMGRkUGJCYWc5T0xsZz09>

Meeting ID: 985 8417 6359 - Passcode: 23636



Understanding Guardianship Workshop

When: June 22, 2021 | Tue 11:00 am

Format: Webinar

Webinar, June 22nd, 2021, 11 a.m., with the Northeast Arc of Danvers, MA. Presented with the Center for Guardianship Excellence. The Center's Executive Director, Heather Connors, Ph.D., will give an overview of guardianship and alternatives.

- * Professionals in the fields of aging, disability, and mental health, view guardianship in many different ways.
- * This presentation shares a fresh, practical approach to helping individuals improve their lives, with a personally -tailored balance of guardianship, alternatives to guardianship, social services support, family care, and human rights.
- * Participants will learn how guardians are appointed, standards for guardian decision making, training and services for new guardians, and best practices for collaborating with guardians to drive needed outcomes.
- * Tools and resources will be shared.

To register visit <https://zoom.us/j/95172807541> or contact Phyllis Kizner at Pkizner@ne-arc.org .

Special Needs Housing and Transition Group



Supportive Housing, Information Nights

When: June 29, 2021, July 27, 2021, August 24, 2021 | Tue 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Come to one of our ZOOM Housing Informational Sessions, led by Doreen Cummings, Director of In-Home Services, to hear about Mainstay's 7 Properties, and about housing resources in general, in Massachusetts. Mainstay coordinates collaborative supportive homes in Newton, Malden, Norwood and Walpole, for adults with a variety of abilities and needs. Residents live largely independently, with supportive services tailored to meet their individual needs. Services offered include live-in staffing, evening and weekend staffing, professional cleaning of common areas, a daily communal dinner, support with activities of daily living and built-in socialization and friendship opportunities. NO RSVP NEEDED. Click on the Zoom links below to attend:

*June 29 - <https://zoom.us/j/96094478131?pwd=TmJ1QzVXeHNKNUJ1b3FYVDV5Q0c0QT09>

*July 27 - <https://zoom.us/j/95279665735?pwd=QVJlVWpWFR0bWpZTVFZZ0p3MC9EUT09>

*August 24 - <https://zoom.us/j/94586521251?pwd=aE53QlJMUXNlbE5peWlXblMrNjR4UT09>

Visit our Websites to learn more:

*www.Hasseltinehouse.com *www.Jcrgrouphomes.com *www.Cedarhousemalden.com*

If you cannot attend a Zoom Open House, please contact Doreen via email to schedule a 1:1: Doreen Cummings, 617-799-6739, doreen.cummings@mainstayliving.org



Transition Planning

When: July 22, 2021 | Thu 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

This presentation provides an understanding of the transition planning process, including why transition planning is important, services that could be included, who is eligible, student and parent/SESP roles in transition planning, and the role of student's vision. We will discuss how to prepare for a transition planning meeting, using the transition planning form, the age of majority, the anticipated graduation date, and the options when the Team does not agree, including procedural due process rights. Register here <https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqdutqj8uE92huRMmQOAbR0UDgeYSKL7V>



Finding Purpose Through Work-based Learning Experiences

Career readiness can mean a lot of things, from knowing how to craft a resume to acing an interview, but in today's increasingly tech-driven world, being knowledgeable about coding and software development are of particular value. Coding experience, for example, can lead to careers as a computer engineer, systems analyst, and even video game designer. Microsoft, one of PYD's career readiness partners, recently hosted a virtual video game coding workshop for our youth with disabilities. In the workshop, attendees learned how to code their own video game, known as "Eat the Donut," in which they built out a mini-world where a character of their choosing was on a mission to eat a delicious dessert. Read full article here <https://www.pyd.org/finding-purpose-through-work-based-learning-experiences/>



Academic Guidance

Students with disabilities sometimes need extra assistance to help with academic success. Mary Rubenis, MEFA's Attainable Outreach Manager, put together two blog posts that offer guidance for families supporting a student with a disability: Helping Your Student with a Disability Transition to College https://www.mefa.org/blog/helping-your-student-with-a-disability-transition-to-college?utm_campaign=Guidance2020&utm_source=AbleWave10&utm_medium=email&utm_content=CTA1 describes what students should know about their own IEP, the accommodations available in college for students with disabilities, and the role parents can play in helping their children with a disability succeed. Guidance for the IEP Transition Meeting https://www.mefa.org/blog/guidance-for-the-iep-transition-meeting?utm_campaign=Guidance2020&utm_source=AbleWave10&utm_medium=email&utm_content=CTA1 provides tips to help students lead their annual high school IEP meeting, as well as key links that offer additional guidance on preparing for postsecondary education.



Connecting Youth to Careers

This video follows Jessica from 9th grade through her senior year as she explores her strengths and interests, gains work experience and finds her career pathway. It covers self-awareness, career research and career planning activities. It also answers questions about what parents can do to help launch their teen on a successful career path.

Author: PACER Center, Duration: 4 minutes. <https://www.pacer.org/transition/video/player.asp?video=275>

Disability Disclosure on the Job: What, Why, When, and How

New content on PACER's National Parent Center on Transition and Employment (NPCTE) website explores disability disclosure in employment settings. Young adults with disabilities who received special education services or accommodations during high school often need supports at work. When students with disabilities are in the K-12 school system, they are "entitled" to receive certain services and supports based on education laws. After they graduate, however, young adults with disabilities are "eligible" to receive services based on their individual needs and must proactively ask for them by disclosing they have a disability. This means that the young adult with a disability must choose to tell their employer or "disclose" their disability in order to receive services or accommodations at work. It is important that families understand this shift and help their young adult consider how and when to disclose their disability to employers. Read more here

<https://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/employment/self-advocacy.asp>

Promote Paid Work Experiences During High School

Parents have a great deal of influence over whether their youth with a disability pursues employment, and at what age. Studies show that students with disabilities who had paid work experiences in high school were almost three times more likely to find a job after high school. Real world work opportunities enable youth to make informed choices about their career plans, expand their social networks, and gain the confidence they need to pursue their goals for the future. These resources can give parents and youth ideas about obtaining a first job:

*The Transition to Employment: What Parents Can Do Now <https://www.pacer.org/transition/resource-library/publications/NPC-12.pdf>

*9 First-Time Jobs for Teens <https://www.understood.org/en/friends-feelings/teens-tweens/first-jobs/9-great-first-time-jobs-for-teens>

*Tapping into the Power of Families: How Families of Youth with Disabilities Can Assist in Job Search and Retention http://www.ncwd-youth.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/infobrief_issue27_0.pdf

Communicate High Expectations for Employment

Research shows that youth with disabilities whose parents expected them to find a job and be self-supporting in the future were employed at significantly greater rates as adults. Be intentional about how you talk about the importance of work. Look for opportunities to help your youth recognize their strengths and interests, and point out connections to career paths. These resources will help you promote high expectations:

*High Expectations: A Most Valuable Tool <https://www.pacer.org/transition/resource-library/publications/NPC-20.pdf>

*Guideposts for Success: Family Involvement & Supports <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/solutions/guideposts-for-success/family/>

*The Guideposts for Success: A Framework for Families Preparing Youth for Adulthood <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/publications/guideposts-for-success-families/>

Teach and Reinforce Important Work Skills

Parents can take the lead in the development of many of the "soft skills" employers highly value, including self-management and problem-solving skills; organizational and technology skills; and communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills. These are helpful resources:

*Helping Youth Develop Soft Skills for Job Success: Tips for Parents and Families http://www.ncwd-youth.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/infobrief_issue28_0.pdf

*Talk to Your Child About Employment: A Checklist for Parents <https://www.pacer.org/transition/resource-library/publications/NPC-16.pdf>



Young Leaders Rising (YLR)



Learn new skills while having fun!

Who: Massachusetts students with any type of disability; ages 14-22 years

Where: Online through Zoom (tech support offered!)

When: July 12, 2021 - September 27th, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 PM

Why: To develop leadership & career readiness skills, make connections, and have fun!

What: A FREE 12 week series of career learning opportunities that will empower participants to build social networks and develop connections through a series of online gatherings, workshops, discussions, and social events.

Deadline: Apply by June 30th



To learn more, visit www.PYD.org or contact Kristin Humphrey, at (617) 556-4075 x121 or khumphrey@pyd.org





Calling upcoming artists for 2021 PYD's
Access to Theatre Summer Institute online



Join us as we explore original theatre, acting and improvisation to create a community of artists working together with all abilities !

When: July 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28, 28 August: 1, 4

Day 1 – Wednesdays – 2pm – 4pm

Day 2 – Sundays – 1pm – 3pm

Where: Online on Zoom

Who: Ages 13- 24 years

What: Acting/ Improvisation

Why: Here's your chance to express yourself, be creative as we explore themes to create scenes.

All levels of experience accepted.

Don't wait, please call now or email to reserve your spot.



Contact: Deep Chinappa at 617-556-4075 x120
or email: dchinappa@pyd.org



Community Support



COVID-19 Vaccine in Massachusetts

The COVID-19 vaccine is free and available to all people age 12+ who live, work, or study in Massachusetts. You do not need an ID or insurance to receive the vaccine. People ages 12-17 can receive the Pfizer vaccine and people age 18+ can receive any vaccine. Learn more information here. <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine>. Find a vaccination location here <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>. If you need assistance making an appointment, call toll free 2-1-1. In-home vaccinations are available for anyone who is unable to get to a vaccine location. Learn more here <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-homebound-vaccination-program>



Vaccinations, Return to In-Person Learning and What All Parents Need to Know

When: June 22, 2021 | Tue 7:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Join us for an opportunity to hear from key representatives from the Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as we discuss schools safely reopening in the fall for in-person learning. Learn the process to get our children with and without disabilities back in the classroom, testing and vaccines safety. This is an opportunity for families to express concerns, ask questions and discuss how to sustain safe operations in schools. Registration is required. Register here!

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ddYamU1qTUyL0xJO3tdKWA



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Information & Listening Forum

When: June 23, 2021 | Wed 4:30 pm

Format: Webinar

For individuals with disabilities and their families. Learn how the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) is partnering with the disability community to change how they create and deliver services. MRC's Office of Individual and Family Engagement in partnership with UMass Medical School's Commonwealth Medicine is hosting a two-hour virtual forum for individuals with disabilities and their families:

- *Learn about results from focus groups with individuals with disabilities receiving MRC services and their families
- *Learn who MRC is and what we can do for you
- *Provide feedback on projects we are taking on at MRC to enhance our services and supports.
- *They want to hear from you whether you've received services from MRC or not.

Registration is required to https://massrehabcommission.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oUfVYEI6TBCRxpYphdvqeQ or contact Amanda Costa, MRC Director of Individual and Family Engagement Amanda.Costa@mass.gov or call/text at: 617-645-3460. **Accommodations can be requested during registration**



Would you attend an in-person gluten-free festival?

The Nourished Festival team hopes you're doing well!

We are reaching out to past festival attendees to learn how you'd feel about attending an in-person event in the next few months. The festival would be held inside and include food sampling.

[Would you feel comfortable attending a GF food festival in Worcester?](#)

[Submit your answer](#)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqZ_V2UVjeazszyA3SPCTASyO1nWi2-KNncs66ErWvnDLqQ/viewform

LEND Boston

LEND Program Seeks Self-Advocate for 9-Month Fellowship! (Fabulous Opportunity!)

The LEND Program is looking for a self-advocate with a disability to join the LEND fellowship. The LEND fellowship runs from September 2021–May 2022. The selected individual will receive a small stipend. You can apply if you:

- * live in Massachusetts
- * have developmental or other disabilities
- * are not in school
- * are not in a transition program

LEND stands for Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities. The LEND Program is part of Boston Children's Hospital and the Institute for Community Inclusion. As a LEND fellow you will train with fellows from several professional disciplines, such as social work, psychology, developmental medicine, audiology, occupational therapy, nursing, public health, genetic counseling, child development, and education. There will also so be some parents of children with disabilities. Self-advocates often bring a support person with them to the program. If we choose you for the program, you will go to classes at Boston Children's Hospital on Fridays from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. You will also spend time outside of Friday classes to observe clinics, visit community Programs, and work at a community-based organization. You may be able to do some of this on the weekends or in the evening.

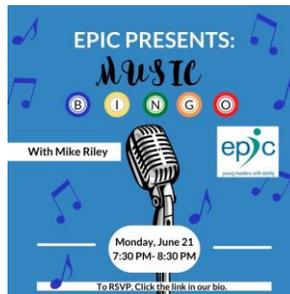
In this program, you will:

- *take classes on leadership, evidence-based practice, working together, understanding cultures, public health, solving problems, research, policy, clinical issues, and advocacy
- *participate in a policy/advocacy conference with training about advocating on Capitol Hill
- * have opportunities to work with community-based organizations that work with diverse children and families with special health care needs.
- *go to in-home visits with a family with a child with a developmental disability
- *go to meetings with Title 5 programs
- *observe some hospital clinical teams

For more information or to get an application, please contact Lauren Berman by email at Lauren.Berman@childrens.harvard.edu. Learn more here <http://www.lendboston.org/>



Fun Activities and Recreation



Music Bingo

When: June 21, 2021 | Mon 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: Virtual via Zoom

What's Music Bingo You Ask? It's just like regular bingo but with songs. This event is on Monday, June 21st at 7:30 PM. Come gather up your friends and family for a night full of fun, listening to the songs you love, mark them on your virtual bingo cards, and win prizes. The cost for this event is \$20 for the first bingo card and \$5 for each additional bingo card. To register for Music Bingo click <https://triangle.ejoinme.org/musicbingonight>



Worcester Bravehearts Autism Awareness Specialty Jersey Day

When: June 27, 2021 | Sun 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Where: Hanover Insurance Park , 1 College St, Worcester, MA

This is a friends and family event. Sunday June 27 the Bravehearts are hosting an Autism Awareness Day complete with the players wearing specialty jerseys that will be auctioned off to benefit our Autism Resource Central. All who register will also receive a Worcester Bravehearts baseball hat. Grab the kids and family and friends to join us for this fun filled day at Hanover Insurance Park. Game time is 4:00 pm. Click this link to register:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=pg7iu8cab&oeidk=a07ei3gk97n4dc83f54>



Summer Sports Program

When: Various Dates

Where: Multiple Locations

AccessSportAmerica has been the leader in adaptive sports in Massachusetts for more than 25 years, offering safe and professional instruction in Windsurfing, Hawaiian Outrigger Canoeing, Stand-up Paddling, Kayaking, and Cycling. We've added a new site at Malibu Beach in Dorchester for windsurfing, Hawaiian outrigger canoeing, stand-up paddling, & kayaking. Cycling will be held on Friday afternoons on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Acton. This is a beautiful trail with very safe street crossings and fairly flat terrain. Advance registration required. Learn more about or register visit

<http://www.accessportamerica.org/summer>



Calendar of Adaptive Sport Activities

See a calendar of adaptive sport activities for youth and young adults who have visual or mobility impairments. Also connect with adaptive sport programs throughout New England. <http://adaptivesportsne.org/participate/>



New! Virtual Camps and Classes You Can Book this Summer on Mommy Poppins

We've added a whole new way to find and book activities directly on Mommy Poppins! In addition to our provider directory, now our activities calendar has new categories for camps and classes, as well as the events, both virtual and in-person, that you are used to. Even better, some activities now have the option for you to book directly from our calendar, making signing up quick and easy. To give you an idea of some of the things you can find, we've selected some virtual camps and classes you can book in our calendar today and throughout the summer. Simply click through to get more details and use the booking box at the bottom of the listing to reserve your spot in a flash.

<https://mommypoppins.com/anywhere-kids/camps/new-virtual-camps-and-classes-you-can-book-this-summer-on-mommy-poppins> * this resource is not disability specific



Asian Lantern Spectacular at the Roger Williams Zoo

When: July 4, 2021 | Sun

Where: Roger Williams Park Zoo, 1000 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907

Journey through a wonderland of illuminated larger-than-life lanterns inspired by our wild world. From dazzling and interactive displays to delicious Asian-inspired cuisine, this enchanting multicultural experience is sure to delight all ages!

Tickets are sold ONLINE ONLY. Learn more here <https://www.rwpzoo.org/lantern>



Putts And More Family Fun Center - NEWLY Certified Autism Welcoming Business!

Location: 750 Concord Street, Holliston, MA 01746

Putts & More is a great Family Fun Center. Youth and adults from MetroWest and beyond come together to spend quality leisure time. Putts & More features a 3 acre beautifully designed 18 hole miniature golf course as well as a splash pad. Putts & More offers a snack bar serving ice cream, candy, chips, hot dogs and more. We host a seasonal farm stand supporting local community groups. Putts and More Family Fun Center is a NEWLY Certified Autism Welcoming Business. We have been welcoming organizations that support autism and their families since our inception. Special sensory toolkit and customized visual supports are available at the admission desk. All staff have received training designed to raise their awareness and understanding of children with autism. We are happy to accommodate your family and loved ones special needs during your visit. If needed, please be sure to ask for an "access pass" to expedite your waiting time.

What is an Autism Welcoming Business? Autism Welcoming businesses make simple, but impactful accommodations to support individuals and families with autism. They are trained by Autism Alliance staff and partner together to create a supportive environment. Learn more about our Autism Welcoming Initiative. Check out their website at

<https://puttsandmore.com/>



Club SMILE Mass.

Is a series of zoom activities, but as the world opens up more, we will be holding more in-person activities. We are working on locations to host those now, but most will be in metro-west. One aspect of our program is bike evaluations done by a Children's Hospital PT. For anyone who joins Club SMILE Mass, which is \$100 per month (\$25 per week), they will receive a bike evaluation and we will get them a bike, provide them with workout equipment should they join our workout class and more. The equipment/bike will remain property of SMILE Mass, but will be theirs to keep as long as they are part of our program. To learn more about Club Smile Mass programming check out their brochure below. A free trial is available!

Action Plan

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY WITHIN A COMMUNITY

Our success is based solely on our ability to raise money. You can help! Use the QR code below to get more information on SMILE Mass!

- **Gold Level** – \$5,000
- **Silver Level** – \$1,000
- **Bronze Level** – \$500
- **Buy a Brick** – \$100
- **In-Kind Donation** – Offer goods or services for the community. Things like landscaping, construction or even items to use at our next auction. Email info@smilemass.org or call 617-967-7755.
- **Volunteers** – Sign up on our site.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we are building a better tomorrow.



Use this QR code to get information from our site.

OUR FOUNDERS

The founders of SMILE Mass are two moms who are raising kids with disabilities.



In 2008, they challenged their home town to think outside the box and were granted an opportunity to rebuild the current playground.

The project became the very first Universal Designed playground in Metrowest. It took a little over a year from start to finish. They fundraised, wrote grants, and advocated for families raising kids and adults with disabilities.

Their philosophy – If you can blink, you can think. If you can think, you can move.

Club SMILE Mass is a hybrid monthly activity program loaded with classes that will stimulate our clients both physically and mentally. Our clients might just need a piece of equipment, or other circumstances, to accomplish some of the same things the rest of the world can do without support. We offer free bike evaluations as well as an equipment loaner program that includes beach wheelchairs. To learn more about SMILE Mass and our programs, please visit our website.

CONTACT US

SMILE Mass
66 Dudley Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
617-967-7755
smilemass.org
info@smilemass.org





SMILE Mass (Small Miracles in Life Exist) is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing happy, healthy memories to families raising children

or adults with disabilities through vacation and recreation experiences.

Our mission is to create a day trip, vacation opportunity or recreational experience without barriers. No one should sit on the sidelines unless they want to.

OUR APPROACH



We believe that a moving body is a healthy body. Moving your body not only improves your physical health, but exercise also improves brain function, structure and connectivity. SMILE Mass will offer alternatives in each of our classes to meet each client at their current level while working with them to grow stronger and more confident.



OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS

- All-inclusive monthly hybrid recreational program (includes bike evaluation)
- Short-term adapted-equipment loaner program
- Cape Cod accessible beach vacation rental
- Beach wheelchair program throughout New England
- Running Team — All abilities welcome
- Adapted all-inclusive SMILE Mass Playgrounds



For more information, visit smilemass.org.

WHAT WE OFFER

SMILE Mass will do an intake to ensure each client has the appropriate equipment to participate in our many classes. All adapted equipment (gym, bike, etc) are on loan to the client while part of the program. This ensures appropriate support and safety for each client. Hybrid-model classes will take place in Sudbury or East Bridgewater.

Our monthly hybrid classes include:

- Music
- Story Time
- Functional Semi-Private Movement Classes or Private in Home Functional Movement and Exercise
- Bingo
- Biking – To begin during school vacation. Bike evaluations will be done by a Physical Therapist.

All classes are run by certified staff.

club smilemass

A COMMUNITY WITHIN A COMMUNITY



Have you ever dreamt of a place where your loved one with disabilities would fit in? Imagine making every effort to include them on a hike, a bike ride, a music class, an art project, a gym class or one-on-one training. Together you can enjoy the beauty of the outdoors by taking a stroll on accessible trails or perhaps go kayaking, all while being surrounded by like minded people in a sensory friendly accessible world. We currently focus on school-aged kids, however, this new community within a community will allow us to serve clients from birth to 99 years of age.



Welcome to Club SMILE Mass, a community within a community coming soon to the Metrowest area. The club will use the Universal Design Principle to ensure

the space throughout the property is functional, accessible and aesthetically pleasing! A place you can come everyday, a couple of times a week, or simply on weekends with friends and family.



Summer Sailing at Community Boating

When: July 7, 2021 - August 25, 2021 | Wed 5:30 pm

Where: Community Boating, Inc., 21 David Mugar Way, Boston, MA 02114

Adaptive Sports New England and Community Boating invite youth and young adults with a visual impairment or a mobility impairment to join us for Wednesday afternoon sailing this summer. No experience is necessary and each participant can bring a sibling or friend. Come to one or all sessions. Free, but pre-registration required here

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ei2i4ogj51d9c923&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Visit <https://www.community-boating.org/> to learn more!



JURASSIC QUEST DRIVE THRU at GILLETTE STADIUM

When: June 25 – July 11, 2021

Where: Gillette Stadium, Two Patriot Place, Foxborough MA 02035

More than 70 lifelike dinosaurs are ready to return from extinction to delight families and dino fans everywhere, as the Jurassic Quest Drive Thru, the nation's largest and most realistic dinosaur experience, migrates to Gillette Stadium June 25 through July 11, 2021. After welcoming millions of guests to sold-out events across the country, the Jurassic Quest Drive Thru returns to Foxborough for the second time this summer. This contactless, family-friendly drive-thru experience features lifelike dinosaurs, baby dinosaur and trainer meet-and-greets, photo opportunities and a choose-your-own-audio-adventure tour, allowing families to make memories of epic proportions. Jurassic Quest's herd of roaring and moving animatronic dinosaurs – from the largest predators to playful baby dinos – are displayed in realistic scenes guests will experience from the safety of their own vehicle as they drive through the tour. Jurassic Quest worked in collaboration with leading paleontologists to ensure each dinosaur was painstakingly replicated in every detail, from coloration to teeth size, to textured skin, fur or feathers, drawing on the latest research about how we understand dinosaurs and ancient giants of the sea looked and moved. Although the drive-thru experience means visitors will stay safe inside their vehicles, they'll still need to avoid the swinging tail of the 50-foot Spinosaurus and the gigantic, grinning Megalodon! For ticket information visit <https://www.patriot-place.com/jurassic-quest-drive-thru/>



Family Fun Day - Hampton Beach
Hampton Beach, Hampton, NH
June 27th | 10 AM - 1 PM
Ages: Any
Cost: Free
Application Deadline: June 12th

Family Fun Beach Days for Loved Ones with Epilepsy & their Families

When: Sunday June 27th 10am-1pm we will be having a fun family beach day meet up at Hampton Beach, Hampton, NH.

When: Wednesday August 11th 10am-1pm we will be having a fun family beach day meet up at Jenness Beach, Rye NH.

Register here <https://form.jotform.com/211364912840149>

**SPECIAL NEEDS
ARTS PROGRAMS,
INC.**

Virtual Special-Needs Chorus “Camp” and in Lexington

When: July 7, 2021 – July28, 2021 | Check website for more details

The Special Needs Arts Sing Chorus Camp brings together individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities to learn about singing and music at weekly rehearsals, as well as socialize and make friends.

- * Chorus Camp is different from our regular Sing Along Chorus in that each participant will focus on learning a song of their choosing.
- * Participants will work on their song during the month of July and perform in a virtual concert at the end of Chorus Camp.
- * In the on-line registration form, each participant needs to list up to five songs that are personal favorites.
- * Music Director Tom Malone will pick their song from the list they submit.
- * Participants need to indicate if they would like to perform as a soloist or in a duet or trip group.
- * Chorus Camp will be run by Tom and our SNAP Accompanist Harley Smith.

Fees apply, registration is required to www.snaparts.org/programs or 781-325-8025, or INFO@SNAPARTS.ORG

Special Artists Art Classes

When: July 10, 2021 – July 31, 2021 | Check website for more details

Format: On-line

Special Artists brings together individuals with developmental disabilities to work on art projects. Participants work at their own pace in a supportive and fun environment, emphasizing creativity and friendship.

- * Special Artists work on different projects each session and activities can include watercolor or acrylic painting, fabric painting, wood projects, and multi-media art.
- * Please inquire about the appropriate ages for this program.
- * No art experience is required to attend this program.
- * Special exhibits are planned to showcase the talent and achievements of the artists.

For more information visit the SNAP Art Program www.snaparts.org/snap-program-registration or contact info@snaparts.org or 781-325-8025 *program information found at www.spedchildmass.org



Sensory-Friendly Afternoon at the Discovery Museum

When: July 11, 2021 | Sun 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm – Drop in

Where: The Discovery Museum, 177 Main Street (Route 27), Acton, MA

Cost: Free with pre-registration

Please check back for registration link 2 weeks prior to the event. Come play and explore in our ADA-compliant and universally designed museum during this special, free afternoon dedicated to families with members on the autism spectrum. The Museum will be closed to the general public and headcount will be limited. Advance registration is required. Especially for Me is generously supported by the Alexion Charitable Foundation. <https://www.discoveryacton.org/event/autism-friendly-afternoon-1>



Family Support & Special Interest



Peer Support x PureSpark

When: Various Dates | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Format: Virtually via Zoom

The discussion will be held via Zoom Video Conferencing, links will be shared the day before the event

Moderator: Nieisha Deed, A Mental Health Advocate with lived Experience, A Public Speaker unafraid to speak authentically, and the Founder of PureSpark "Helping you find your spark in the darkness"

What is a peer Support Group? A Peer Support is a group of supportive peers typically led by someone who has a close relationship with the group topic. Peer support by PureSpark is looking to support:

- peers that may currently be living with a mental illness,
- peers that have a loved one who is living with a mental illness,
- peers that have experienced symptoms of a mental illness in the past,
- peers that maybe experiencing "unfavorable" emotions/feelings during a stressful time (i.e. COVID-19). To register and learn more click here <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peer-support-x-purespark-tickets-109183920044>



Unicorn Children's Foundation Announces Hybrid Support Programs

Unicorn Children's Foundation is excited to announce an in-person Summer Connection Program! For those who would you like to continue virtual learning from anywhere in the world, classes are just \$10! The 6-week classes include Dating & Relationships 101, Coping Skills, Retail, Movie Lovers' Club, and Photography. Click on the following link to learn more about class offerings <https://www.unicornchildrensfoundation.org/classes.html>



Keeping Your Kids With ASD Safe

Safety is a top priority to all parents. Having autism brings unique challenges to keeping our children safe and protected. The following information provides a summary of key considerations concerning elopement, water safety and drowning, pica and household toxins, interactions with first responders, and internet safety. Check out this website page to read more about these important topics here https://tacanow.org/family-resources/keeping-your-kids-with-asd-safe/?blm_aid=34829

***Please Note: These resources are provided for informational purposes only.
Please do your own due diligence and research.***