

MetroWest Regional Transition Resource Guide



The MetroWest Regional Transition Fair Committee and its affiliates do not endorse any of these programs.
Resources are for informational purposes only.

State Agencies

Client Assistance Program (CAP)



Inez Canada

Advocate

inez.s.canada@massmail.state.ma.us

617-727-7440, ext. 27315

One Ashburton Place, Rm 1305

Boston, MA 02108

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/about-the-client-assistance-program>

The Client Assistance Program (CAP) is a federally funded program through the Massachusetts Office on Disability that provides advocacy for and information to people who seek and receive services from MRC, MCB, and independent living centers in Massachusetts. CAP can discuss how the vocational rehabilitation and independent living centers can work best for you, inform you of your rights and responsibilities, and help you receive services you are eligible for by advocating for you within the VR or independent living agency, representing you at appeals or hearings, and referring you to other services or resources you may need.

Department of Developmental Services (DDS)



Deborah Anne Johnson

Middlesex West Area Director

deborah.anne.johnson@massmail.state.ma.us

(508) 861-2211

300 Howard St., Framingham, MA 01702

www.mass.gov/orgs/departments/departments-of-development-services

The Department of Developmental Services is state agency and part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The mission of DDS is to creates, in partnership with others, innovative and genuine opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to participate fully and meaningfully in, and contribute to, their communities as valued members.

Department of Mental Health



Dennis Miles
Human Services Coordinator
Dennis.miles@massmail.state.ma.us
(508) 616- 2813
361 Plantation Street
Worcester, MA 01605

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-mental-health>

The Department of Mental Health, as the State Mental Health Authority, assures and provides access to services and supports to meet the mental health needs of individuals of all ages, enabling them to live, work and participate in their communities. The Department establishes standards to ensure effective and culturally competent care to promote recovery. The Department sets policy, promotes self-determination, protects human rights and supports mental health training and research. This critical mission is accomplished by working in partnership with other state agencies, individuals, families, providers and communities.

Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)



Mass.gov

(617) 727-6465

300 Granite Street, Suite 404
Braintree, MA 02184

<https://www.mass.gov/locations/disabled-persons-protection-commission>

DPPC protects adults with disabilities from the abusive acts or omissions of their caregivers through investigation oversight, public awareness, and prevention. DPPC is responsible for ensuring that the appropriate protective services are provided when abuse has been substantiated or risk is determined, providing training and education for service providers, law enforcement personnel and the public, and providing assistance to the public in clarifying the presence of abuse and neglect.

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind



Mayanne MacDonald-Briggs
Transition Counselor- MetroWest Region
mayanne.macdonald-briggs@MassMail.State.MA.US
(617) 626-7580
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
<http://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-for-the-blind>

MCB is the designated agency and point of entry for rehabilitation and social services for residents of the Commonwealth who are declared to be legally blind by an eye professional. Under a newly established category, MCB will expand service to qualifying individuals who have low vision with a progressive visual impairment. These services prepare individuals for productive independence and full community participation. MCB employs Assistive Technology experts, rehabilitation teachers, Orientation and Mobility Instructors, Social Workers, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors, employment specialists and Transition Counselors who provide direct services to adults and children. Counseling and Guidance, Coordinating Community Resources, work assessments, job training, advocacy at schools and job placement are some of the services that MCB can provide for individuals who are blind or deaf blind.

Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Terri Pancare
Children Services Specialist
terri.pancare@state.ma.us
(508) 395-3634
167 Lyman Street
Westborough, MA 01581
<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcdhh/>

The Mission of MCDHH is to provide 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. Programs and services include Communication Access, Training and Technology (CATT) services, case management, interpreter/CART referrals, and independent living services.

Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA)



Mary Rubenis
College Planning Representative
mrubenis@mefa.org
(617) 224-4843
60 State Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 021091
<https://www.mefa.org/products/attainable/>

MEFA is proud to serve as the state sponsor of Attainable, the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Savings Plan. MEFA's ABLE Savings Plan provides a new way of saving for the current and long-term expenses of eligible individuals with disabilities. Attainable Savings Plan accounts will not be considered when assessing SSI disability benefits eligibility (for account amounts up to \$100,000), and entire account balance is disregarded in assessing eligibility for Medicaid and other federal means-tested benefits. Eligible individuals are those entitled to benefits based on blindness or disability under title II or XVI of the Social Security Act, and such blindness or disability occurred before the date on which the individual turned age 26.

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission



Joe Krier
Site Supervisor
Joseph.Krier@MassMail.State.MA.US
(508) 370-4700
463 Worcester Road, Suite 305
Framingham, MA 01701-5356
<https://www.mass.gov/mrc-transition-services-for-students-and-youth>

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) helps individuals with disabilities to live and work independently. MRC is responsible for Vocational Rehabilitation, Community Living and eligibility determination for the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) federal benefits programs. VR services include counseling and guidance, interest and aptitude testing, job placement assistance, college or vocational training, and employer consultations.

MetroWest Center for Independent Living



Heidi Bishay

Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP) Coordinator

hbishay@mw cil.org

(508) 875- 7853

280 Irving St.

Framingham, MA 01702

<https://www.mwcil.org/main>

MWCIL serves 26 towns in the MetroWest area and enhances the full participation of persons with disabilities in the community. The Independent Living Coordinators work individually with consumers. Scroll down for complete descriptions of our core services: Transition, Information and Referral, Peer Support, Advocacy and Independent Living Skills Training. The Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP) is specialized to work with young adults with disabilities (14-22) who will be transitioning out of high school. Our mission is to work directly with young adults, help them determine their goals and find pathways to achieving these goals.

Project IMPACT



Kathleen Kelly

Student Benefits Counselor

kathleen.kelly2@state.ma.us

(857) 319-1021

5 Middlesex Avenue, 3rd Floor

Somerville, MA 02145

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/statewide-employment-services>

Project IMPACT is an MRC program that provides personal benefit counseling to people that get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and are employed or looking for a job. This can help individuals with disabilities understand what may happen when they go to work or increase earnings.

Southern Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC)



Brittany Raposa
Senior Employment Specialist and Job Developer
508) 620 – 2699
7 Bishop Street
Framingham, MA 01702
<http://smoc.org/>

South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) is an umbrella organization that works in the community to provide opportunities for people to enhance their economic security and to create a safety net when short-term support is needed. SMOC is the designated community-based anti-poverty agency for the MetroWest region and is headquartered in downtown Framingham. Our four main areas of programming include: Family and Nutrition; Employment and Education; Behavioral Health Services and Comprehensive Housing Services.

Work Without Limits Benefits Counseling

WorkWithoutLimits

Putting abilities to work in Massachusetts.

Brian Forsythe
Project Coordinator
Brian.Forsythe@umassmed.edu
1-877-YES-WORK
333 South St.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
<http://workwithoutlimits.org/benefitscounseling>

Benefits Counseling is a service of Work Without Limits that assists individuals with disabilities who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), who are looking for employment or are currently working, to understand how work earnings or wage increases impact these and/or other public benefits.

Mental Health

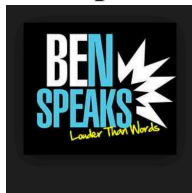
Advocates Community Counseling



Ann Pruszyński
Director of CBHI Services
APruszyński@advocates.org
(508) 661-2020
354 Waverly St
Framingham, MA 01702
<https://www.advocates.org/>

Advocates provides a range of services to individuals with disabilities and their families. Clinical services include: In Home Therapy, In Home Behavioral Services, Therapeutic Mentoring, Outpatient Counseling & Medication Management.

Ben Speaks Louder Than Words



Judy Giovangelo
Founder and President
giovangelo@comcast.net
(857) 719-5574
360 Woodland Street
Holliston, MA 01746
www.benspeaks.org

Ben Speaks Louder Than Words 501C3 public charity offers programs and resources for youth, families and communities by providing access to healing & expressive art resources in Metrowest through our Ben Cares Provider Network. We advocate for a whole child approach to wellness. Our signature Power of Choice presentation avail for middle schools, high schools, colleges and PTOs teaches tools for resilience, collaboration and contribution with emphasis on slaying the inner bully.

Eliot House

Eliot House

A SERVICE OF RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CARE

Alison Sheehan
Program Director
asheehan@riversidecc.org

(781) 449 1212
255 Highland Avenue, Suite 300
Needham, MA 02494
<http://ellithouse.org/about-elliott-house.php>

Elliot House is an employment and recovery center that offers people with mental health conditions hope and opportunities to achieve their full potential through peer support and rehabilitation. Our recovery oriented programs help individuals gain self-confidence, build employment skills, and foster relationships.

National Alliance on Mental Illness



namimetrowest@namimetrowest.org
(508) 251-9595
<http://www.namimetrowest.org/>

Our Mission is to provide advocacy, support and education for people with mental illness and their families. We are persons in recovery and their families and friends. We believe that both biology and trauma are factors in the development of mental illness. Programs include Family Caregiver Support Group, which is for family members caring for someone with mental illness, NAMI Connection Group, which is a peer-led support group for persons recovering from mental illness, and Support Groups that are held from 7-9PM at Employment Options, 82 Brigham Street, Marlborough, Massachusetts on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Education Programs are also offered, including NAMI Family-to-Family a 12 - week education class for Family Caregivers of adults with mental illness, NAMI Basics a 6 - week education class for Family Caregivers of children and adolescents with mental illness. All of our programs are free and open to the public.

Step by Step Supportive Services



Allyson Linehan
Community and Provider Liaison
alinehan@stepbystepss.org
(617) 487- 4084
1470 Beacon St
Brookline, MA 02446
www.stepbystepss.org.

Step by Step Supportive Services is a not-for-profit, family supported organization that empowers individuals 20 and older to find their own paths to independence while dealing with the complications of life with mental illness. Our unique model offers a broad range of personalized services to individuals living in the community or residing independently in our dedicated apartments. Our services include clinical case management, therapeutic groups, wellness program, social activities, financial management, executive functioning coaching, and the dinner program. Fees are generally paid for by a combination of resident and family resources.

Strattus @ TILL Mental Health Services



Kim Tamaren
Clinical Director
kim.tamaren@tillinc.org
strattus@tillinc.org
781-329-9365
20 Eastbrook Road
Suite 104
Dedham, MA 02026
<http://www.tillinc.org/strattus.html>

Strattus @ TILL Mental Health Services works with children, adolescents, adults, couples, families and groups. Therapists are available to meet with clients on an outreach basis, as well as in our licensed clinic, providing comprehensive care for children, adolescents and adults. Strattus Clinical Competency for Guardianship Evaluation Services offer the expertise of senior level clinicians to appropriately assess decision making by individuals with cognitive differences.

TEMPO



Troy Fernandes
Housing and Education Coordinator
troy_fernandes@waysideyouth.org
(508) 879-1424
68 Henry St
Framingham, MA
<http://tempoyoungadults.org/>

Tempo is a resource center for young adults age 17-25 that services basic needs on site and works with young people on accomplishing their goals. On site we have a washer and dryer, shower, food and clothing donations, a computer lab, and art studio, and drop in clinical support that all young adults have

access too. We also offer case management to help with things such as housing, education, and employment. We are willing to work with anyone regardless of limitations or agency involvement. Stop in for a tour any time we are open or call us with any questions you have.

Wayside Youth & Family Support Network



Irene Roche
Program Director
Irene_Roche@waysideyouth.org
(508) 620-0010
88 Lincoln St
Framingham, MA 01702
<http://www.waysideyouth.org/AboutUs/AboutUsOverview.aspx>

Wayside Youth & Family Support Network provides a wide variety of mental health counseling and family support services to children, young adults and families in Massachusetts. Programs include outpatient counseling, in-home therapy and family-based services, mobile crisis intervention, continuum services, parent support services, family networks, a young adult resource center, and an emergency shelter for homeless teens.

Hearing Impairment

Center for Living and Working



Ellen Perkins
Hard of Hearing Skills Trainer
eperkins@centerlw.org
(508) 798-0350
484 Main St
Worcester, MA 01608
www.centerlw.org

CLW's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services (DHILS) include a variety of services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers. We accept referrals from other agencies or individuals may self-refer by visiting or calling our offices. Services we provide include independent living services, peer mentoring programs, problem solving assistance, crisis intervention, Assistive Device Training/Loaner Program, and more.

Deaf Inc.



Carol Hilbinger
Director of Independent Living Services
chilbinger@deafinonline.org
(617) 505-4819
215 Brighton Ave
Allston, MA 02134
<http://www.deafinonline.org/>

DEAF, Inc. inspires people to achieve personal and professional goals through accessible programs and services. We build bridges across communities by increasing communication access and awareness. It is one of the first multi-service community-based agencies run by and for people who are Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing, or Late-Deafened. We provide Deaf and Hard of Hearing Independent Living, health literacy and support, community access for DeafBlind adults, and related services. All our staff are community members proficient in various communication methods, so they can communicate directly with people to assess their needs and to work with them to set up services to meet their needs.

Vision Impairment

The Carroll Center for the Blind



Nancy Sharon
Director of Education & Community Services
nancy.sharon@carroll.org
(617) 969-6200
770 Centre St
Newton, MA 02458
www.carroll.org

The Carroll Center offers an array of programs and services to support students with visual impairments, including those with additional disabilities, as they transition into adult-hood. Programs are offered throughout the school year as well as the summer and provide opportunities to develop independent living skills, explore careers in the community and improve personal skills.

Perkins School for the Blind



Patrick Ryan

Supervisor of Outreach

patrick.ryan@perkins.org

(617) 972-7812

175 N. Beacon St.

Watertown Ma. 02472

<http://www.perkins.org/school/public/short-courses>

Perkins Short Courses offer public school students who are blind or visually impaired a fun and safe environment to make friends and develop independence. Students from grades 1-12 can choose from a variety of programs ranging from Science and technology, sports, girls empowerment, self defense, career readiness, and much more. To learn more about which Short Course is right for you please visit our website or contact us.

Housing

3L Place



Rachel Steinberg

Life Skills Specialist

rsteinberg@3lplace.org

617-764-3280

50 Whitman Street

Somerville, MA 02144

3LPlace.org

3LPlace is building exciting opportunities and a warm, diverse community for adults and young adults with developmental challenges. We support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as they explore the world and make choices about their lives.

3LPlace offers a menu of highly individualized day, evening and weekend programming, based on our unique 3LPlace Curriculum, at our Somerville location. We also offer transition supports and services for young adults. We accept government and school funding as well as private pay members, and some scholarships are available.

Advocates AFC



Izabela Kaminska

Program Director of AFC

IKaminska@advocates.org

(774) 217-8037

1881 Worcester Road

Framingham, MA 01701

<https://www.advocates.org/services/adult-family-care>

Whether you are caring for an aging parent, or a son or daughter with a disability, Advocates Adult Family Care provides financial assistance and the resources your family needs to thrive. Our experienced team of case managers and nurses partners with your whole family to help you care for your loved one in the comfort of home. We tailor our supports to each family's unique needs and preferences, and we honor and value cultural diversity. Our staff members come from a wide range of backgrounds and speak many languages, including Cantonese, English, French, Haitian-Creole, Lithuanian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

We provide you and your loved one with:

- Financial assistance
- Regular visits from a registered nurse and a case manager
- Resources and training
- Referrals to services and community resources

To be eligible, your loved one must:

- Qualify for MassHealth
- Be 16 years or older
- Live with you
- Require assistance with daily routines and personal care

Autism Housing Pathways



Catherine Boyle

President

ccampboyle@gmail.com

<http://autismhousingpathways.org/>

Autism Housing Pathways (AHP) was created to provide information, support and resources for families who seek to create secure, supported housing for their adult children with disabilities. Autism Housing Pathways seeks to foster education and awareness and disseminate information about the creation of self-directed housing for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities; to promote and support the formation and maintenance of such housing; and to assist families in creating self-directed housing for their adult children that supports their residential, recreational and community needs.

Caregiver Homes



Gretchen Slevin

Community Liaison

gslevin@caregiverhomes.com

(774) 276- 1856

11 Midstate Dr.

Auburn, MA

<http://www.caregiverhomes.com/>

Caregiver Homes is a Masshealth Program in which provides financial and case management support to families caring for the elderly and younger disabled recipients (over the age of 16). The care recipient must have Masshealth Standard or a Masshealth funded program. Through monthly in-home visits with a RN and Care Manager families receive support with tasks like: daily check-ins via an electronic tablet provided to caregiver, medication management, navigating the healthcare system, coordination of care and community services, CG stress reduction tools and techniques, monthly education provided based on caregiver and consumer needs and much more!

Hope's Landing



Rachel Haser
Founder
hopeslandingma@gmail.com

Hopes Landing believes that every human being has a unique purpose and reason for being, and wants to give people with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) an opportunity to find their purpose, achieve independence, and engage in a community that will enhance their lives, the lives of their loved ones, and the community at large. We are very much in the planning/research phase, but our overall plan of engagement is to 1) develop and operate a semi-independent/independent living community for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities (with an emphasis on "LIVING"); 2) Provide job training and gainful employment both within the Hopes Landing Community and in integrated settings in the community; and 3) Create an environment where residents can build lasting relationships with both ID/DD peers and the Neurotypical (NT) community.

Katydid Foundation



Alison Levins
Director
(978) 465-2335
941 Newburyport Turnpike
Saugus, MA 01906
<http://katydidfoundation.org/>

The Katydid Foundation Inc., launched in 2004 by the mother of a young woman with autism, has made that transition easier for many individuals and their families. It is a unique, self-directed program supported by the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, grants and donations. The foundation operates a home in Haverhill, Mass. that is home to three adults on the autism spectrum and live-in caretakers.

Mass Families Organizing for Change (MFOFC)



Lauri Medeiros
Metro Boston Regional Coordinator
rjmede@aol.com
(617) 605-7404
<http://mfofc.org/>

Mandee Spittle
Statewide Coordinator
mfofc@mfofc.org
(774) 855-6001

MFOFC is a statewide, grassroots coalition of individuals with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses and their families. We believe that supports for individuals and families can be more flexible and better designed to respond to the actual needs people have. We are actively organizing families and individuals to use the power of our numbers to effect positive change.

MRC Adaptive Housing



Eugene Blumkin
Adaptive Housing Coordinator
Eugene.Blumkin@MRC.state.ma.us
(617) 204-3721
http://www.massmatch.org/fund_at/MRC_Adaptive_Hsing_FAQs.php

The Adaptive Housing Program provides housing evaluations, architectural services, housing modifications, and equipment installation to individuals with disabilities to enable them to achieve an employment outcome by removing barriers to living in their current home. Adaptive Housing services include (major) home modifications and (minor) home modifications. Major home modifications may include wheelchair ramps and lifts, stairlifts, bathroom modifications (such as roll-in showers, roll under sinks, higher toilets and widened doors), and kitchen modifications (such as lowered counters, and roll under cooktops. Minor Home Modifications may include door openers, grab bars, handrails, and widening of doors.

Specialized Housing



Mike Caballero
Newton Housing
mike@specializedhousing.org
(617) 277-1805
45 Bartlett Crescent
Brookline, MA 02446
<http://specializedhousing.org/>

We help families create independent living situations for adults with developmental disabilities, learning disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, and some physical disabilities. We are a team of clinicians, lawyers, architects, and builders committed to development and management of housing for people with additional needs. Specialized Housing was the very first housing program in the US to help adults with special needs to own their own homes with professional support.

Supportive Living



Pam Morrissey
Director of Operations
pmorrissey@supportivelivinginc.org
781-937-3199, ext. 5
400 West Cummings Park, Suite 6100
Woburn, MA 01801
<http://www.supportivelivinginc.org/>

Supportive Living, Inc. raises the quality of life for survivors of brain injury by providing and coordinating specialized brain injury residential programs, long-term wellness programs and applied research into rehabilitation best practices. Our services include four residential facilities, active physical and functional fitness programs, cognitive and social engagement programs and applied research into the best approaches to improving the lives of brain injury survivors.

TILL Inc. Residential Supports



Alan White
alan.white@tillinc.org
(781) 302-4695
20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201
Dedham, MA 02026-2056
<http://www.tillinc.org/residential.html>

TILL's Residential Supports offers a wide range of housing options. In addition to homes providing 24hr supports, TILL offers Individualized Community Supports to address the individual's unique needs: Creative Living Options, offering a combination of staff and/or companions to optimize independence; Shared Living, including an individual with disabilities in an existing family unit; Individualized Supports, providing assistance and training in assessed skill areas to allow the person to live independently.

Transportation

Adaptive Driving Program Inc



Mark Whitehouse
Program Coordinator
MW4adp@aol.com
(508) 626- 6568
250 Milton St.
Dedham, MA 02026
<http://www.adaptivedrivingprogram.com/>

The thousands of people with special needs who have learned to drive with Adaptive Driving Program over the last 20 years testify to the experience, skill, and dedication of our staff. We take care to address all aspects of independence. We provide a unique team approach that includes the instructor, consultants, and the consumer. We have the capability to assess virtually any disability or special need. We can provide consultations with licensed occupational therapists, and we work in conjunction with rehabilitation centers and hospitals.

Around Town Youth Rides



Amy Dunajski
Founder
aroundtownyouthrides@gmail.com
(508) 726-7858

A ride share service for kids ages 6-17. A solution for busy families. Owned and operated by moms. Safety is our #1 priority. Individuals with special needs can still access these services even if they are over age 17.

DriveAdvise Program



Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center

Ann Hollis
Cognitive Neurology Unit, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
ahollis@bidmc.harvard.edu
617-667-4074
330 Brookline Ave
Boston, MA
<https://www.bidmc.org/centers-and-departments/neurology/programs-and-services/cognitive-neurology/programs/drivewise-and-driveadvise>

DriveAdvise is a multidisciplinary evaluation targeted for people who have never driven and are considering learning to drive. This program is particularly helpful for individuals with Developmental Challenges where social, emotional and neurologic factors may impact driving readiness.

What will happen during my DriveAdvise evaluation? Your evaluation will begin with an interview with the Clinical Social Worker focusing on motivations for learning to drive as well as current lifestyle adjustments related to transportation needs. The social worker will also schedule a follow up appointment. You will then meet with the Occupational Therapist who will test cognitive functions such as attention, memory and processing speed and also physical functioning, such as brake reaction time, strength and range of motion. A computer-based test that measures visual functions critical to driving will be used. The results of your evaluation will be discussed during the follow up appointment which is normally scheduled for 2 weeks after your initial evaluation.

Cost of DriveAdvise;- DriveAdvise is not usually covered by insurance. The current cost payable to BIDMC is \$340 payable by check or credit/debit card.

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA)



Carl Damigella
Travel Trainer
carl@mwrtta.com
(508) 935-2222
15 Blandin Ave.
Framingham, MA 01702
<http://www.mwrtta.com/programs/transitions-travel-training>

We provide all aspects of Public and Paratransit Transportation. We work with and provide students in the Transitional Programs mostly, but not limited to the ages of 18-22, with both intellectual and physical disabilities. Our services will make available the Transportation needs for employment, education, and housing. The student will learn confidence and the ability to become self-sufficient and maintain their independence. We have a resource method of “Door to Door” transit for those unable to navigate on our Fixed Route Buses.

Natick Connector



Jack Rourke
Transportation Coordinator
connector@natickma.org
(508) 647-6540 ext 1901
<https://www.natickma.gov/657/Transportation>

The Community Services Department of Natick has an accessible transportation service for Natick residents called “The Natick Connector”. Our van provides door-to-door transportation for seniors and also residents with disabilities who need local rides for medical appointments, grocery shopping, or other personal needs.

Where can it take me? Our “Natick Connector” van will pick you up at your home and bring you to your destination and back. Our service area includes Natick and the surrounding towns of Framingham, Wellesley, Wayland, Ashland and Sherborn.

When can I get a ride? Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 4 pm.

How much is the fare and how do I pay? The one-way fare is \$2; a round trip is \$4. Natick residents can easily set up an account with the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA), using a credit or debit card, or personal check. Each trip fare is automatically deducted from your account at the time you are picked up. No cash is exchanged on the van.

How do I set up an account? Call the MWRTA Call Center at 508-820-4650. Tell them you want to set up an account for the “Natick Connector”.

How do I reserve a ride? Reservations are made by calling the MWRTA Call Center at 508-820-4650. Please call two business days before you need a ride.

RMV



Michele Ellicks
Community Outreach Coordinator
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(857) 368-9457
10 Park Plaza, Suite 6620
Boston, MA 02116
massrmv.com

Everyone sharing the road in Massachusetts must focus on safety. The Massachusetts Driver’s Manual includes rules of the road and other information that will prepare you for your road test and a lifetime of safe driving, cycling and walking. These rules benefit drivers of all ages. We want you to be prepared for what is ahead of you today, but we ask that you also please stay curious and up to date on changes aimed at increasing safety for all. We are proud to offer this manual as a fully accessible PDF on our website, www.massrmv.com. In addition to English, the manual is currently available online in Spanish. We strive to accommodate people who need other assistance to earn their license or access other Registry services.

Social/Recreation

Access Recreation Boston



Chenine Peloquin
Program Director
info@accessrecboston.org
(617) 695-1225
200 Portland St
Boston, MA 02114
<https://accessrec.org/about-us/>

Access Recreation Boston is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to increasing and enhancing recreation opportunities for people with disabilities in the greater Boston area. We accomplish this through building community awareness, sharing professional expertise, and promoting collaboration. AccesSport America



Betty Miller
Program Coordinator/Administration
betty@accessportamerica.org
(978) 264-0985
119 High St
Acton, MA 01720
www.accessportamerica.org

AccesSport America's programs are designed to promote each person's highest physical and athletic potential while cultivating social and emotional well-being. We seek to create a community where differences are diminished, blurred and often erased. We emphasize the need to "train for life" and design programs to build a community of relationships that last a lifetime. Programs include windsurfing, hawaiian outrigger canoeing, rowing, stand up paddling/surfing, kayaking, cycling, soccer, tennis and personal training.

Adaptive Sports New England



Ann LeVarn
ann.levan@adaptivesportsne.org
(781) 454-9701
89 South St #603
Boston, MA 02111
www.adaptivesportsne.org

The mission of Adaptive Sports New England is to increase participation in sports among youth and young adults with a visual or mobility impairment. We offer sport programs in swimming, track & field and wheelchair basketball. We also work closely with local community organizations and schools to support inclusive sport programming.

AMC Movies



AMC is proud to partner with the Autism Society to offer unique movie showings where we turn the lights up and turn the sound down. So you can get up, dance, walk, shout or sing. Available on the 2nd and 4th Saturday and Tuesday evenings of every month. Check your local theater listings for specific showtimes. We also offer assistive movie going with features that include assistive listening with adjustable, audio description, closed captioning.

Autism on the Seas



(203) 929-1761
Headquarters in Shelton, Connecticut
<https://autismontheseas.com/>

Autism on the Seas is a national organization that has been in collaboration with Royal Caribbean International since 2007 in developing cruise vacation services to accommodate adults and families living with children with Special Needs, including, but not limited to, Autism, Asperger Syndrome, Down Syndrome, Tourette Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and all Cognitive, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Our Staffed Cruises are selected from regular cruises throughout the year, and we assist adults and families in accommodating the typical cruise services, as well as providing specialized Respite and Private Activities/Sessions that allow our guests the use of the ships entertainment venues in an accommodated and assisted manner. Our professional Staff (educated, experienced, background checked

and sanctioned by the cruise lines) accompanies you on your cruise to provide these amazing vacation and travel experiences onboard Royal Caribbean, Celebrity, Norwegian, Disney and Carnival Cruise Lines.

Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs



Rhoda Bernard

Managing Director

rbernard@berklee.edu

(617)912-9104

Boston, MA 02215

<https://www.berklee.edu/berklee-institute-arts-education-and-special-needs/arts-education-programs>

The Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Need soffers arts education programs for people with disabilities, ages three and up. Choose from a wide range of music classes and lessons or adaptive dance programs. A theater program will be piloted in fall 2018, and visual arts programs will be offered in the future. Programs are offered year-round.

BINA Farm

BINA FARM CENTER

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER



Nicole Rotatori

Community Outreach and Special Events Manager

info@binafarm.org

(508) 651-2462

55 Allen Street, Lexington, MA 02421 (Barn)

207 Union Street, Natick, MA 01760 (Office)

<http://www.binafarm.org/>

BINA brings together individuals with and without special needs by providing a comprehensive therapeutic and recreational environment. Our programs include Recreational Riding, Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies, Vocational Training, Veterans Programming and Unmounted Horsemanship Programs. Programs are open to children and adults with physical, developmental and emotional challenges, as well as those without special needs. Our programs are held at our barn in Lexington, MA and we also hold some lessons at the Dana Hall School in Wellesley, MA.

Boston Ballet Adaptive Dance Program



Cate Burns
Studio Manager
eci@bostonballet.org
(617) 456-6333
153 Needham St
Newton Highlands, MA 02461
<https://www.bostonballet.org/education/adaptive-dance>

Boston Ballet believes everyone should have the opportunity to dance and is committed to working with our families to ensure that programming is accessible. Adaptive Dance offers three types of classes:

- Specialized classes for individuals with **Down syndrome** ages 2–adult in Boston and Newton (Friday and Saturday)
- Specialized classes for individuals with **Autism Spectrum Disorders** ages 5–adult in Boston and Newton (Saturday)
- Inclusive classes for individuals of **all abilities and needs** ages 5–adult in the North Shore (Tuesday) and Newton (Saturday)

Creative Living



Patty Rotondo
Program Administrator
info@creativelivingandover.org
(978) 470-3165
368 S Main St
Andover, MA 01810
<https://creativelivingandover.org/about-us/our-programs>

Creative Living enriches the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities through life skills, social, educational, recreational and respite programs. Offerings include overnight or full day respite programs, including getaway weekends, TOPs overnights, and vacation week or summer camps, after school programs, and social programs, including Friday nights out and social club.

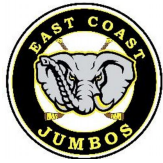
DCR Universal Access Program



DCR.UniversalAccess@state.ma.us
(413) 545-5353
PO Box 484
Amherst, MA 01004
<https://www.mass.gov/accessibile-recreation>

The Universal Access Program ensures equal access to outdoor recreation in Massachusetts state parks. We're always working to improve and update our sites and buildings for you to visit. We also have specialized recreation equipment for you to use on the trails, the beach, or the ice. And, we offer year-round adaptive recreation programs.

East Coast Jumbos (American Special Hockey)



Ray Leblanc
Coach
coachray@eastcoastjumbos.org
(781) 439-5788
Home Arena
The Rivers School
330 Winter Street
Weston, MA 02493
<http://eastcoastjumbos.teampages.com/>

The East Coast Jumbos is an organization whose goal is to provide a positive athletic and social experience for athletes with Autism and other developmental disabilities who wish to participate in the great sport of ice hockey. Starting in 2007 with only five players, the team now has over 30 athletes, at many skill levels, ranging in age from eight years old through adulthood. The team is not focused solely on hockey, but hopes to help participants grow and learn, build their confidence, increase communication skills and develop and maintain relationships both inside and outside the hockey environment.

The Ely Center



Pamela Ely
Founder
office@elycenter.com
(781) 400- 2605
400 Hunnewell St.
Needham, MA
<http://elycenter.com/>

The Ely Center offers a variety of programs to suit each client's needs. Our programs include social-cognitive groups that focus on conversation skills, understanding social situations, and reading facial expressions and body language, speech-language and occupational therapy sessions and evaluations, and other structured social activities, including weekend outings, cooking classes, and creative enrichment art classes.

Empowering People for Inclusive Communities (EPIC)



Jeff Lafata
Founder and Executive Director
info@epicleaders.org
(617) 917-5181
89 South Street, Suite 406
Boston, MA 02111
<https://www.epicleaders.org/youth-groups>

EPIC offers programs to enhance leadership, as well as youth groups.

EPIC Service Warriors is a community service and education program for youth with disabilities between the ages of 16-23. EPIC Service Warriors meet for one year to participate in community service projects in the Greater Boston Area. By creating the change they want to see in the world the Service Warriors learn more about local communities and develop practical skills that will help them develop as leaders and pursue future goals.

Youth Nights are offered the 3rd Friday of every month from 6:30-8:30pm. Themes change every month and are picked by the youth. Themes have included: Game Night, Self-Advocacy Training, Karaoke Night, and Social Media 101. This is a free event for youth with disabilities between the ages of 14-25

QueerAble is the only Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Heterosexual Allies (LGBTQIA) group for youth with disabilities in the state. This youth led, adult supported group focuses on Support, Education, and Advocacy in order to address the unique needs and disparities faced by LGBTQ youth with disabilities. It meets the first Friday of every month from 6:00-8:00pm and is a free event for youth with disabilities between the ages of 14-25.

Handi Racket Tennis



Sylvia Swartz
Executive Director
syltennis@hotmail.com
(508) 358-7355 ext 210

524 Boston Post Rd
Wayland, MA 01778

<https://longfellowhealthclubs.com/programs/tennis/handi-racket-tennis-2/>

Handi-Racket Tennis is an instructional tennis program for people with disabilities. Handi-Racket Tennis offers the opportunity to learn the great game of tennis to a population the might not otherwise have the chance. We are based at The Longfellow Club in Wayland and play on Saturdays from October until June. We are the largest group of tennis athletes at Special Olympics Massachusetts. We serve athletes from Attleboro, Belmont, Concord, Danvers, Framingham, Medford, Newton, Saugus, Sudbury, Wellesley and Weston.

The Happy Place



Megan
meganp@compassionne.com
(508) 482-0010
146 S Main St
Milford, Massachusetts 01757
<http://www.compassionne.com/#!/thehappyplace>

The Happy Place strives to establish acceptance, encouragement and support in order to meet the needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities and families with children with special needs. Programs include volunteer opportunities for adults and youth with intellectual and physical disabilities and The Happy Place Clubhouse, which is a voucher based program that provides a safe and accommodating space for kids and adults with special needs to hangout, be themselves, and have fun while parents get a much needed break! Happy Place Adult Club is located in Whitinsville and open on select Saturdays, by appointment only.

IMPACT: Ability



Meagan Anderson
IMPACT Operations Manager
manderson@impactboston.org
(781) 321-3900
89 South Street, Suite 406

Boston, MA 02111

<http://impactboston.com/selfadvocacy/>

The IMPACT:Ability curriculum teaches people with disabilities to recognize unsafe situations and respond with effective self-protective behaviors. Students learn skills that are relevant to sexual violence, attempted abduction, bullying, and harassment as well as how to assert and advocate for themselves in everyday situations.

IRun4



Tim Boyle

Founder

tim@whoirun4.com

(701) 741- 5631

<https://www.whoirun4.com/who-we-are#OurMissionandValues>

Since its inception IR4 has grown from a grassroots running club of 20 runners and buddies with special needs into a certified non-profit organization with four branches serving over 40,000 members and 14,000 matches, with over 2,500 athletes of all levels and kinds from across the globe waiting to be paired with an amazing buddy. We exist first and foremost to enhance the lives and bolster the support systems of individuals and families of those with special needs, wounded veterans, and those who've lost loved ones by pairing them with runners and athletes who dedicate their workouts, miles, and races to these incredible buddies.

JCC Newton



Janis Robbins

Coordinator of Inclusion and Support Services

JRobbins@jccgb.org

(617) 558-6522

333 Nahanton St

Newton Centre, MA 02459

<https://www.bostonjcc.org/>

We proudly cultivate an inclusive community, accessible programs and countless choices to encourage people to participate in ways that fit their own needs and aspirations. At JCC Greater Boston, all members of your family can pursue their interests with a wide range of fitness, arts, culture and social activities.

You'll find exciting programs for every age and a warm, welcoming community. Classes and events are offered at convenient times throughout the week.

Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding



Cassie Clarke
Program Director
Cassie@lovelane.org
(781) 259-1177 x34
40 Baker Bridge Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
www.lovelane.org

Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program is a therapeutic horseback riding program that has a dramatic impact on the social, cognitive and physical development of children with an array of special needs. Our therapeutic horseback riding program focuses on achieving wide-ranging therapeutic goals in a unique and motivating setting. Lovelane also offers an unmounted Barn Buddies Program where children work as a team to take care of Lovelane's wonderful horses. Through exciting games, activities and barn chores, Barn Buddies promotes the physical, emotional, and social growth of each child.

MetroWest YMCA



Carolyn Lister
Marketing Director
clister@metrowestymca.org
280 Old Connecticut Path
Framingham, MA 01701
(508) 879-4420 x55
www.metrowestymca.org

The MetroWest YMCA is a cause driven charitable organization that is for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The Y offers classes and programs to all in our community from sports of all sorts to group exercise to healthy living workshops. The Y also has Early Learning Center, before and After School Programs and Summer Camps serving 10 towns in the MetroWest area. The Y offers financial assistance for those who need help participating in Y programs.

Miss Amazing Pageant



Lucy Nealon
(617) 458-0709

Chloe Rogan
(781) 475-0120

Since 2013, the Massachusetts Miss Amazing events have been celebrating the multi-faceted identities and valuable abilities and strengths of girls and women with disabilities from all over Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Massachusetts Miss Amazing is a one-day event for girls and women with disabilities to reach their full potential and to share their unique abilities, goals and dreams. By participating in a variety of skill areas, the participants build self-confidence as well as social and communication skills. These lessons will help them to become more actively engaged in their own communities. In an atmosphere built around encouragement and support, Miss Amazing not only brings the community together but, more importantly, encourages inclusion of girls and women with disabilities. The day is one of bonding, learning and having fun. By encouraging our participants to dream big and reach their full potential, the Miss Amazing celebrations prove that the world is a much better place when the talents and ambitions of *all* people are celebrated and valued. It is an experience that inspires all people to empower themselves and each other. Miss Amazing Inc. was started in 2007 in Nebraska. It has since evolved into a non-profit organization and is now held in over thirty states across the country and has touched the lives of more than 1,700 girls and women with disabilities.

MUSE Foundation



connor@muse-foundation.org
Brookline Teen Center
40 Aspinwall Ave
Brookline, MA 02446
<http://muse-foundation.org/>

The Music, Unity & Social Expansion (MUSE) Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in Boston, MA. The mission of MUSE is to promote and foster social connection through music. We currently facilitate two bands, a drum circle, and teach private music lessons. We also facilitate social events for neurodiverse adults.

Museum of Science Disability Testers



Museum of Science®

Sunewan Chunhasuwan
Research and Evaluation Assistant
accessibilityeval@mos.org
(617) 589-4438
1 Museum Of Science Driveway
Boston, MA 02114
<https://www.mos.org/explore>

The Museum of Science, Boston, seeks people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to help improve the museum offerings, such as exhibits and programs. Those with, but not limited to, sensory, physical, and cognitive disabilities, can be contacted to test new exhibit prototypes and explore the museum. Interested participants will come to the Museum of Science to interact with exhibit prototypes or explore other existing museum experiences. Testing could last anywhere between 30 and 90 minutes and will always include free admission to the Museum of Science exhibit halls for the day and free parking in the Museum's garage.

Natick Recreation and Parks



Melissa Carter
Natick Community Services Department, Special Needs Coordinator
mcarter@natickma.org
(508) 647-6400 ex. 1805
179 Boden Ln
Natick, MA 01760
www.natickma.gov/recreation

The Natick Recreation and Parks Department has multiple offerings throughout the summer to get children and adults with variety of abilities active. Camp Arrowhead is our 1:1 day program that provides high school aged volunteers as 1:1 with campers as they experience a typical recreational summer camp.

Our other offerings include an adult softball league, a teen and adult internship program that builds skills for job opportunities, and special event trips on weekends.

Newton Wellesley Weston Drop In Program



NEWTON
WELLESLEY
WESTON

COMMITTEE FOR
COMMUNITY LIVING, INC.

Keavy Smith
Program Director
KSmith@nwwcommittee.org
(617)964-6860 ex. 21
Grace Episcopal Church
Newton Corner
<https://nwwcommittee.org/drop-in/>

Drop-In is a welcoming, community-centered program. Drop-In provides safe and accepting setting for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ages 16 and above to socialize and enjoy themselves. The cost of Drop-In is \$5.00 and we require all participants to fill out an emergency contact form. The Drop-In event includes activities such as a Live animal show, Costume Ball & our annual dog show.

Performing Arts Center of MetroWest



Jeanne Walker
President, Framingham Community Theater
pac@pacmetrowest.org
508 875 5554
3 Maple St.
Framingham, MA 01702
<http://pacmetrowest.org/>

The Performing Arts Center of MetroWest, serving Framingham and the surrounding towns, creates a welcoming community that provides high quality, affordable education and performance opportunities in Music, Theater, and Dance, for all ages and at all stages of development.

Personal Best Karate

Christopher Rappold
(508) 203-1777
36 Janes Ave Unit 2
Medfield, MA 02052
<https://personalbestkarate.com/about-us/medfield>

Offers a martial arts and exercise program every Saturday afternoon for children, teenagers, young adults and adults of all ages with special needs.

Special Olympics Massachusetts



Special Olympics is spreading inclusion to every town, every city, every school, every workplace, every community in Massachusetts. The athletes, coaches and volunteers of special Olympics Massachusetts are changing the way the world sees individuals with intellectual disabilities. Programs for adults in the area include:

Thrive Special Olympics: Marlborough, MA

- Program Coordinator: Jim Karami - jkarami@icanthrive.org
- Spring Season (March – June): Track & Field, Swimming
- Summer Season (June – August): Golf, Softball
- Fall Season (September – November): Soccer
- Winter Season (November – March): Basketball

Milford Special Olympics: Milford, MA

- Program Coordinator: Jen Walsh – jwalsh@milfordma.com
- Spring Season (March – June): Track & Field, Swimming
- Summer Season (June – August): Cycling
- Fall Season (September – November): Soccer, Cheerleading
- Winter Season (November – March): Ten-Pin Bowling, Basketball

To learn more about specific practice details for each sport, please send an email to either Jim or Jen from those programs and they will be able to provide those specific details.

The Bridge Center



Abby Ross
Program Coordinator
ARoss@thebridgectr.org
(508) 697-7557 ext.12
470 Pine Street

Bridgewater, MA 02324
www.TheBridgeCTR.org

The Bridge Center provides year-round therapeutic recreation and equine therapy programs for individuals with disabilities. The center provides year-round, seasonal, and summer sessions of programs such as sports, arts, music, social skills, vocational skill programs, therapeutic riding, horsemanship programs, camps, and more! Sitting on 22 acres in Bridgewater, MA the opportunities are endless!

THRIVE Support and Advocacy



Lorrie Marcoulier
Communications Specialist
lmarcoulier@icanthrive.org
(508) 485-4227 x1113
65 Boston Post Rd W Suite 220
Marlborough, MA 01752
<https://www.icanthrive.org/>

With a wide array of social and recreational programs, as well as an active network of social groups, there is something for everyone. A sampling of Thrive's social and recreational experiences include field trips, participation in Special Olympics sports, social nights, art classes, exercise classes, and holiday parties. We also offer a variety of social groups where members who have common interests meet regularly to participate in a variety of activities. Our social groups include but are not limited to women's group, men's group, and an advocacy group. With events scheduled twenty days out of the month it is a great way to get out meet new friends and try new things.

Trips R Us



Michael Graham
Mike@tripsrus.org
42 Eden St
Framingham, MA 01702
(508) 405-0999

<http://www.tripsrus.org/>

Our goal is to offer safe, entertaining, challenging, and most of all FUN trips and programs at reasonable prices. We provide a great and natural way for our friends with developmental disabilities to socialize with their peers out in the community. We aim for everyone to make new friends, enjoy a social life, and most of all create unforgettable memories! Most importantly, we strive to enhance self-confidence and personal growth through the awesome experiences of our social events & travel adventures.

Waypoint Adventure



Julia Spruance
Program Director
jspruance@waypointadventure.org
781-325-7980 xt. 184
453 Concord Ave.
Lexington, MA 02421
<http://www.waypointadventure.org/>

Waypoint Adventure is a non-profit educational organization that uses quality experiential and adventure-based programs to transform the lives of individuals with disabilities and their communities. Waypoint's vision is that all people, regardless of ability, will have opportunities for adventure, and through them realize their personal value, strengths and abilities. The challenge faced and support discovered in these experiences will help people become stronger individuals and community members.

Employment/Community Resources

Boston Medical TEAM Program



Simone Dufresne
Transition Navigator/TEAM Coordinator

simone.dufresne@bmc.org

(617) 414-3847

One Boston Medical Center Pl

Boston, MA 02118

<https://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-autism-program/services/teens-engaged-mentors-team>

TEAM (Teens Engaged as Mentors), empowers diverse children and adolescents in a mentorship model that encourages strong leadership, self-confidence, and positive community relationships. In this unique program, teens with and without autism spectrum disorder (ASD) work together to mentor younger children on the autism spectrum.

Cardinal Cushing Adult Services



Cardinal Cushing Centers

All ages. All abilities. All together.

Ryan O'Kane

Director

rokane@cushingcenters.org

781 826 6371

291 Rockland St,

Hanover, MA 02339

<https://cushingcenters.org/adult-services/>

We offer a wide array of day and residential programs including Employment, Community Based Day Supports, Day Habilitation, Shared Living, Adult Family Care, and Residential. We adhere to the principles of Positive Behavior Supports throughout all of our programs.

Change Over Constant



Laura Castello

Transition Coach

laura@changeoverconstant.com

(617) 620-3219

366 Massachusetts Avenue

Arlington, MA 02474

www.changeoverconstant.com

Megan Moran

Transition Coach

megan@changeoverconstant.com

(617) 650- 4740

Change Over Constant is a unique support-meets-strategy practice that empowers young adults with mental health issues to build meaningful lives. As Transition Specialists, we do this by providing goal-oriented support that includes: Transition Planning, Executive Function Support, College Coaching and Gap Year Planning, and Vocational Guidance and Job Exploration. By providing personalized strategies across these domains, we are able to partner with clients and their families so they can navigate any difficult and unknown process of change with confidence and purpose.

Charles River Center



Ellen Kilicarslan
Vice President, Family Support
(781) 972-1000
59 East Militia Heights Road
Needham, MA 02492
www.charlesrivercenter.org

The Charles River Center is a private, nonprofit human service agency, providing employment and job training, residential homes, therapeutic day programs, and recreational programs for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Founded by a group of parents of children with special needs in 1956, the mission of Charles River has always been to improve the quality of life by helping each individual with a developmental disability achieve his or her highest possible level of independence so that he or she can fully participate, benefit, and become a contributing member of the community.

Gateway Arts



Ted Lampe
Program Director
Lampet@vinfen.org
(617) 734-1577
62 Harvard St
Brookline, MA 02445
<https://www.gatewayarts.org/>

Gateway is dedicated to providing individualized, arts-based services to adults with disabilities, and supporting meaningful lives and careers in art. Our program uniquely provides individualized arts-based services and professional career development for more than 100 adults with diverse diagnoses, strengths, and needs. At Gateway, artists are encouraged to follow their dreams and create a unique career. They do so while learning new processes and developing skills with the encouragement and support of a highly trained staff of professional artists who serve as studio supervisors, case managers, and mentors.

Greater Waltham ARC



Roslynn Rubin
Chief Executive Officer
rrubin@gwarc.org
(781)899-1344 ext 4112
56 Chestnut Street |
Waltham, Massachusetts 02453
<http://www.gwarc.org/>

Greater Waltham Arc (soon to be renamed Opportunities for Inclusion) is located in two sites in Waltham, Ma. We offer Day Habilitation, Employment, Recreation and Adult Family Care programs to over 300 persons in the area. We are funded by DDS, DMA and private pay and accept persons over the age of 22 for day services and from age 16 on for AFC services. Our programs are based on the foundation of participant first in their interests and choices for their future.

HMEA



Christine Tobin
AFC/Shared Living Recruiter
ctobin@hmea.org
8 Forge Park
Franklin, MA

(508) 298- 1178

<https://hmea.org/>

HMEA has children services, transition services, family services, and adult services.

Children services include early intervention services for children under 3, ABA home and community services for ages 3 to adulthood, and we also have the Darnell school for students 9 to 22. This school is 766 approved.

Transition and community services assists individuals with special needs 16 and older to make a successful transition to adulthood.

Family services include the intensive family supports systems and MFOFC program which helps families create a home for their loved ones who have a disability.

Adult services include adult family care and shared living. Adult family care is a program funded by MassHealth for participants who are 16 years and older, and has a daily hands on care need. This program compensates the caregiver. Monthly case management and nursing are provided.

Shared living program is funded through DDS. It is a program designed for disabled people to live in the community with a provider.

Jewish Family and Children's Services



Geoffrey Misilo

gmisilo@jfcsboston.org

(781) 647- 5327

1430 Main St

Waltham, MA 02451

<http://www.jfcsboston.org/>

Jewish Family and Children's Services provides support for individuals with special needs and their families, including those with developmental disabilities, autism, and other disabilities. Services include information and referral, supported housing, case management, service planning, support for activities of daily living, social skills groups, and individual advocacy.

JRI Developing Abilities



Gillian Brown
Division Director
gbrown@jri.org
(508) 872-0669 x2205
1671 Worcester Road, Suite 100
Framingham, MA 01701
<https://jri.org/services/developing-abilities>

JRI Developing Abilities offer a variety of residential supports including 24 hour residential group homes, independent supports and shared living.

Employment services allow people with a variety of needs and job skills to grow through job training, group employment and competitive employment positions. Our day habilitation services help people improve their daily life through community-based treatment activities and access to specialized therapies and innovative supports. Our Transitional Day Services focus on individuals moving into the adult system. It offers a menu of choices that can be designed to meet the needs of each person.

MAB Adult Disability Services



Shaun Kinsella
Director
skinsella@mabcommunity.org
(617) 732-0214
29 Denby Road
Allston, MA 02134
www.mabcommunity.org

We have a day habilitation program and a community based day services program in Allston for individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities and brain injuries. Each program has a specialized young adult program for individuals from 22-35 with a focus on skill building. We also have community residential programs in the Greater Boston area that are contracted through DDS and MRC. Our statewide vision programs include orientation and mobility, vision rehabilitation occupational therapy and assistive technology.

Meaningful Jobs Initiative



Julianne O'Toole
jotoole@workinc.org
(617) 691-1709

<http://www.workinc.org/about/news/item/286-meaningful-jobs-initiative>

We are excited to announce that The May Institute in collaboration with WORK Inc. was awarded a two-year grant to train individuals with ASD to enter the robust Security Industry field. Research shows that many people with ASD have greater focusing skills for certain types of tasks than neurotypical counterparts, yet an estimated 90% of these adults are either unemployed or underemployed. The Meaningful Jobs Initiative will help to prepare individuals with ASD to navigate the interviewing process, background checks and learn the job based competencies associated with security screening process.

Interested Participants must:

- Have a documented ASD Diagnosis
- Possess a high school diploma
- Be able to self-transport
- Live in a geographic proximity that they can reasonably travel to Boston
- Have an interest in the Security Screening field
- Want to pursue part-time or full time employment
- Be able to pass a Security Background screening

Nashoba Learning Group Adult Day Program



Lauren Savioli
Program Director
Lauren.Savioli@nashobalearninggroup.org
(978) 528-5210

170 Lexington Road
Billerica MA 01821

<https://www.nashobalearninggroup.org/adult-program/overview>

We are an Adult Program for individuals who are affected by autism and require continuing support in their daily lives. We utilize principles of Applied Behavior Analysis to help individuals achieve success in mastering greater independence in their daily lives and access to the community. We work on a variety of life skills, health and wellness, and community access. We are currently a Day Hab program and

receive supplemental funding through DDS. We are not currently accepting private pay – state funded only.

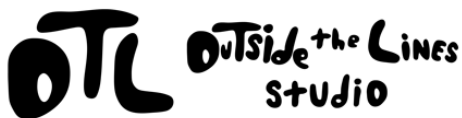
One Stop Career Center- American Job Center



Sarah Hoecker
Partnership Liaison
sarah@mswajc.com
[\(508\) 861-7993](tel:(508)861-7993)
1671 Worcester Rd
Framingham, MA 01701
<http://mswajc.com/>

American Job Center is a career center that can assist you with your job search in a variety of ways. We assist you in developing an employment plan, advice on career planning, job search technique workshops and exploring training options. We also provide such tools as computers with Internet access, phones, fax machines, copiers, newspapers and business journals.

Outside the Lines Studio



Whitney Hoke
Program Director
Whitney.Hoke@rhd.org
(617) 225-0212 X212
70 Colby St.
Medford, MA 02155
<http://outsidethelinesstudio.org/>

Outside the Lines Studio is an arts-based alternative day program and art center for individuals with developmental and physical disabilities. Our mission is to provide a creative, supportive community where each individual can explore their own unique potential in a way that best suits their interests, talents and learning styles. In addition to providing daily living and behavioral support, expressive outlets, life-skills development, and community integration, we provide opportunities for participants to gain recognition and income as artists.

The Price Center



Lori Harrington
Director of Employment and Community-Based Day Services
lharrington@barrypricecenter.org
(617) 244- 0065
27 Christina St.
Newton, MA 02461
<https://www.thepricecenter.org/home.html>

The Price Center empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to thrive in their living, social and work communities. Programs include Community-Based Day, Day Habilitation, Employment Services, Family Support, Intensive Day Habilitation, Residential Living and Individual Supports, and Specialized Supports.

Skills for Life



Brooke Howard
Clinical Director
bhoward@mabcommunity.org
(617) 879-0305
200 Ivy Street
Brookline, MA 02446
<https://www.ivystreetschool.org/skillsforlife.html>

We are occupational therapists and provide support to clients (ages 16-26) and families for independent living skills in their homes and communities. Our focus is to help support clients increase their self-determination through teaching / facilitating prioritization of goals, goal setting, attainment of skills, generalization, execution of skills and the development and maintenance of habits and routines that support independence. We are generally private pay and go to clients' homes, work, colleges and communities and travel within a 40 mile radius of Brookline.

Social Thinking



Jill Day
Assistant Director
jday@socialthiningboston.com
(978) 610-6603
142 North Road, Suite SS
Sudbury, MA
<http://socialthinkingboston.com/>

Social Thinking® is a cognitive behavioral treatment approach focused on fostering social learning due to weak social cognition or compelling social anxiety. We seek to teach students how to socially problem solve rather than to memorize because the social experience requires us to adapt our social behavior based on the situation and social situations constantly change!

SpringBoard Social Club



Dale Belcher
Program Director
Dale.Belcher@tillinc.org
(781) 302-4619
20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201
Dedham, MA 02026-2056
http://www.tillinc.org/springboard_new.html

Springboard Social Club is a membership club for adults. Small groups, facilitated by trained leaders, meet several times each month for social activities chosen by the group. Springboard Shared Interest Clubs (SIC) allow members to more fully participate in mutual interests including Adventure, Art, Theatre, Sports, and more. All Springboard Events offer exciting adventures, celebrations and social opportunities for all club members.

Support Brokers of the ARC of Massachusetts



Kerry Mahoney
Director SUPPORTbrokers
Mahoney@arcmass.org

(781) 891-6270 ext. 109

217 South Street

Waltham, MA 02453

www.hearcofmass.org/programs/supportbrokers

SUPPORT*brokers* of The Arc of Massachusetts assist people with disabilities and their families in tackling problems and proposing solutions through planning, education, and advocacy. Brokers are well versed in transition and person centered planning, community mapping and living options, and, among other areas, different state benefits and services.

TILL Inc. Day Habilitation Services



Stella Reis

Director of Day Habilitation Services

stella.reis@tillinc.org

781-302-4618

20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201

Dedham, MA 02026-2056

http://www.tillinc.org/day_habilitation.html

TILL Day Habilitation Services provide day supports to people with high medical needs as well as those in need of assistance with activities of daily living. Experienced, clinical staff offer a comprehensive range of specialized services and together with our day support professional instructors, develop dynamic schedules of activities to ensure that the person is actively involved in their daily routines. TILL Central, a supplement to our Day Habilitation programs, empowers participants to control their own schedule based on choice making and developing new interests. TILL's Autism Initiative program provides an innovative approach to working with people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). TILL Farms provides learning and growth opportunities in our innovative and earth-friendly program.

TILL Inc. Personal Care Management (PCM) Services



pca@tillinc.org

(781) 302- 4893

20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201

Dedham, MA 02026-2056

http://www.tillinc.org/personal_care.html

Personal Care Management (PCM) Services provides assistance to individuals and families in accessing essential supports under the Mass Health Personal Care Attendant (PCA) Program, including the clinical evaluation of need for PCA services and provide training and resources to the individual or family member.

TILL Inc Vocational Services



Cindy Anderson
Program Director
cindy.anderson@tillinc.org
(781) 302-4609
20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201
Dedham, MA 02026-2056
http://www.tillinc.org/voc_rehab.html

Vocational Services match people to the employment situation which is right for them and provide training, job placement and coaching. TILL operates three entrepreneurial café/catering businesses which provide a unique opportunity for people to obtain/strengthen their vocational skills through training in food and retail services in real businesses with high standards for quality and productivity.

Wings for Autism



Kerry Mauger
The ARC
mauger@thearc.org
<https://www.thearc.org/wingsforautism/>

Charles River Center
wingsforautism@charlesrivercenter.org
<http://www.charlesrivercenter.org/what-we-do/wings-for-autism/>

Wings for Autism®/Wings for All® are airport “rehearsals” specially designed for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities of all ages. The programs are designed to alleviate the stress that families who have a child with autism or intellectual/developmental disabilities experience when flying. It provides families the opportunity to practice entering the airport, obtaining boarding passes, going through security and boarding a plane.

Airport, airline, Transportation Security Administration professionals, and other personnel also have the opportunity to observe, interact, and deliver their services in a structured learning environment.

Work Community Independence



Jason Moss
Intake Coordinator/Family Support Liaison
jmoss@wearewci.org
(781) 570-6071
135 Beaver St.
Waltham, MA 02452
Wci.org

WCI is a Waltham-based Adult services agency that provides residential and employment/vocational supports for individuals with Intellectual disabilities, mental health challenges, medical issues and those on the Autism spectrum. Additionally, we have similar services for those individuals who are deaf. WCI is heavily involved in the surrounding communities for work and enjoyment.

Work Inc



Stephanie Keenan
SKeenan@workinc.org
(617) 691-1555
25 Beach St
Dorchester, MA 02122
<http://www.workinc.org/>

WORK Inc. offers a variety of supports to individuals with a wide range of life challenges. Depending upon your need, we can provide a range of services that are customized to provide a person centered and individualized experience. Most of WORK Inc. services for individuals with disabilities are “closed referral” programs, meaning that they are only available to individuals who have been found eligible to receive services from a state agency that provides funding for the service we offer, however, referrals are also accepted from individuals who are able to privately pay for services.

Advocacy

Asperger/Autism Network



Johanna Musselman
LifeMAP Operations Manager
johanna.musselman@aane.org
(617) 393-3824
51 Water St
Watertown, MA 02472
<http://www.aane.org/>

AANE works with individuals, families, and professionals to help people with Asperger's Syndrome or similar autism spectrum profiles build meaningful, connected lives. We do this by providing information, education and advocacy - all in an atmosphere of validation and respect.

The Autism Alliance



Allison Daigle
Executive Co-Director
AutismAlliance@Advocates.org
(608) 652-9900
1881 Worcester Road, Suite 100A
Framingham, MA 01701
<https://www.autismalliance.org/>

The Autism Alliance is a Massachusetts-based organization providing support, programs, and resources to families and individuals affected by autism spectrum disorders. We help Massachusetts families understand an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis, guide them through the next steps, and connect them to a supportive community.

Best Buddies



Sheri Dean
Employment Consultant

SheriDean@bestbuddies.org
(978) 427-8979
Central MA Office
51 Union Street, Suite 308
Worcester, MA 01608
<https://www.bestbuddies.org/massachusetts/>

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Our programs empower the special abilities of people with IDD by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communication skills, and feel valued by society.

Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc.



Lisa Collins
Director of Community Partnerships & Family Supports
lcollins@flutiefoundation.org
(508) 270-8855
1001 Worcester Rd
Framingham, MA 01701
www.flutiefoundation.org

The goal of the Flutie Foundation is to help families affected by autism live life to the fullest. Through our programs and partnerships, we help people with autism get access to care; lead more active lifestyles; and grow towards adult independence.

Easter Seals



Patrick Remy
Youth Service Coordinator

PRemy@EASTERSEALSMA.org
(800) 244-2756
484 Main St
Worcester, MA 01608
<http://www.easterseals.com/ma/>

Easter Seals Massachusetts provides essential programs and services to children and adults with disabilities throughout the state. Our mission is to ensure that children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play. Our occupational, physical and speech therapists, assistive technology specialists, as well as our youth, employment and transition teams are experts in their fields and provide services in a wide range of settings.

Exceptional Lives



ExceptionalLives

Anne Punzak Marcus
Co-Founder
Anne.punzakmarcus@exceptionallives.org
1(844) 354-1212
<https://exceptionallives.org/>

Exceptional Lives is an independent non-profit organization. We provide free, trustworthy, easy-to-follow information for parents and caregivers of children and young adults with disabilities. Our mission is to close the information gap and ensure that every family has the information they need to help their exceptional child thrive.

Federation for Children with Special Needs



FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Joseph Katz
Transition Family Support Specialist
jkatz@fcsn.org
(617) 236- 7210

529 Main St, Suite 1M3
Boston, MA 02129
www.fcsn.org

The Federation for Children with Special Needs provides information, support, and assistance to parents of children with disabilities, their professional partners, and their communities. We are committed to listening to and learning from families, and encouraging full participation in community life by all people, especially those with disabilities.

Mass Down Syndrome Congress



Kristen Tenglin
Membership Services Coordinator
ktenglin@mdsc.org
(781)221-0024 ext. 204
20 Burlington Mall Road, Suite 261
Burlington, MA 01803
<http://mdsc.org/>

Since 1983, the MDSC has played a cherished role in the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families in Massachusetts working tirelessly to provide information, networking opportunities, and advocacy. Today, the MDSC offers a broad array of programs to ensure that people with Down syndrome are valued, included and given the opportunities to pursue fulfilling lives.

Mass Siblings Support Network



Emily Rubin
President and Co-Founder
emily.rubin@masiblingsupport.org
(617)807-0558
<http://www.masiblingsupport.org/massachusetts-sibling-resources.html>

Mass Sibling Support Network is the only organization in Massachusetts focused on supporting the siblings of people with disabilities. Our network is made up of adult siblings, parents of young siblings, service providers, educators, mental health and medical professionals. We provide information on sibling issues, referrals to sibling services, and social connections for siblings of all ages.

Special Needs Advocacy Network



Special Needs Advocacy Network, Inc.

Educating Advocates, Empowering Parents

info@spanmass.org

(508) 655-7999

<http://spanmass.org/index.html>

For over twenty-five years, the Special Needs Advocacy Network (SPaN) has provided continuing professional development and support for advocates and other professionals in the field of Special Education across Massachusetts. Collaboration exists with other professionals as well as with parents of children with disabilities. SPaN started as a grass roots effort by a small number of parents whose mission to support their own children led them to becoming advocates. This small group of committed pioneers evolved into a growing membership, under a formalized Board of Directors who continues this spirit and mission today. The dedication and forward thinking of its members, past and present, have combined to establish SPaN as a leader in the field of Special Education Advocacy in Massachusetts.

SPED Child Mass



Susan Riddle

Publisher

sriddle@spedchildmass.com

<http://www.spedchildmass.com/special-needs-disability-events-calendar-massachusetts-autism-aspergers/>

SPED Child Mass is a Massachusetts' Special-Needs Events newsletter and website. The website features events, programs and services for children, teens, and adults with all types of needs and abilities in one place.

TILL's Autism Support Center



Lisa Connor

Autism Support Coordinator

autism.services@tillinc.org
(781) 302-4835
20 Eastbrook Road, Suite 201
Dedham, MA 02026-2056
http://www.tillinc.org/autism_training.html

TILL's Autism Support Center serves the Boston Metro Region, offers programs, events, and learning opportunities for children ages birth to 21, with an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis to assist, support and prepare them to live full lives in their communities; networking and training opportunities for families; resources and guidance for families in the Autism Waiver Program.

United Cerebral Palsy



Todd Kates
Chief Executive Officer
tkates@upcboston.org
(617) 926-5480
71 Arsenal St, Watertown, MA 02472
<http://www.ucpboston.org/>

For over 65 years, UCP has provided supports and services to individuals with cerebral palsy and other physical, developmental and intellectual disabilities promoting full inclusion in all aspects of society. Services provided include: Day Programs (Watertown, MA); Residential Supports (24 Hour Residences, Staffed Apartments and Individual Supports); Options for Community Living (Community-Based Case Management); In-Home Supports (Personal Care Attendant Program and Adult Family Care) and Family Support (Information and Referral, Financial Assistance and Recreational and Social Events). Programs are supported by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (primarily Department of Developmental Services, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and MassHealth).

Assistive Tech

BU YELL Lab



Jessica Kramer
Lab Director
yellbulab@gmail.com

(617)353-7522
233 Bay State Rd
Boston, MA 02215
<http://sites.bu.edu/yell/>

The Youth and Young Adults Empowerment, Leadership, and Learning (YELL) Lab at Boston University develops and evaluates tools and interventions that empower youth and young adults with developmental disabilities. The YELL Lab employs and partners with youth and young adults with disabilities in our research to ensure that our ideas meet the needs of people with disabilities.

Easter Seals Assistive Technology Regional Center



Robert Bilotta
Assistive Tech Regional Center Coordinator
RBilotta@eastersealsma.org
(617) 226-2634
89 South Street
Boston, MA 02111
http://es.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=MADR_DLRC

The Assistive Technology Regional Center (ATRC) helps people with disabilities in Eastern Massachusetts make informed decisions about assistive technology they can use to increase their independence at home, on the job or in school. The center shares the Easter Seals mission: ensuring that children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play. Services include a device demonstration program and a device short-term loan program.

MassMATCH



Kobena Bonney
Program Coordinator
info@massmatch.org
(617)204-3851
www.massmatch.org

MassMATCH is the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' initiative to Maximize Assistive Technology in Consumers Hands. Our mission is to promote the use of assistive technology and assistive technology services to enhance the independence of people with disabilities, to provide equal participation in all of life activities.

REquipment DME Reuse Program



info@dmerequipment.org
(508) 713- 9690
PO Box 311
Methuen, MA 01844
<http://dmerequipment.org/>

REquipment is a durable medical equipment (DME) re-use program offering free refurbished wheelchairs, scooters, shower chairs and more to adults, children and elders living in Massachusetts. Search our inventory and request items you need today!

SMILE Mass



Lotte Diomede
President
info@smilemass.org
(617) 967-7755
66 Dudley Rd
Sudbury, MA 01776
www.smilemass.org

The mission of SMILE Mass is to help families raising children and adults with disabilities enjoy happy, healthy memories through vacation and recreations experiences. SMILE Mass has several ways to assist families enjoy a day of recreation or vacation:

- Beach Wheelchair Program - over 120 floating beach wheelchairs have been donated to public beaches in Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire
- Equipment Loaner Program - several pieces of adapted equipment are available to borrow, free of charge, to take anywhere for a day, a week or longer
- Running Team - participate in a local 5K/10K/marathon or join us at in an international race. We have volunteers that will push or assist athletes so everyone can take part in a road race.
- Cape Cod House - SMILE Mass will soon be renovating a townhouse in Truro, Massachusetts and creating a handicap accessible vacation rental.

Sexuality

Elevatus Training (Sexuality and Disabilities Workshops)

ELEVATUS TRAINING

Katherine McLaughlin

Trainer

kath@elevatustraining.com

(603) 399-5777

<http://elevatustraining.com>

The Challenge: People with disabilities are sexual beings and want and deserve sexuality education just like everyone else. There is such a need, but many professionals and parents don't feel prepared to tackle this issue.

The Solution: Get training and educational resources to help you build skills and confidence to tackle this sensitive topic. Products include:

1. Agency and school curriculum: Sexuality Education for People with Developmental Disabilities
2. Online courses; one to train professionals, Developmental Disability and Sexuality 101, and one for parents: Talking to Your Kids about Sexuality
3. Live workshops including a three-day certificate training, Becoming a Sexuality Educator and Trainer.

Mass Advocates Standing Strong (MASS)



Sue Moriarty

Central Regional Coordinator

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508-209-7184

500 Harrison Avenue

Boston, MA 02118 Suite 227

<http://www.ma-advocates.org>

Gail Delgado

Metro/Southeast Coordinator

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339-832-2922

MASS is a state-wide, self-advocacy organization run for and by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our board, our presenters, and many of our staff members are all individuals with disabilities. Our Mission is to empower self-advocates through education so we make choices that improve and enrich our lives. MASS has a monthly Self-Advocate newsletter, as well as monthly regional self-advocacy meetings.

Rainbow Support Group of Massachusetts



Pauline Bosma
Program Coordinator
rainbowbos@charter.net
(508) 944-5797

The Rainbow Support Group provides support and information to individuals with intellectual challenges who are gay, lesbian, transgendered, cross-dressers, or questioning their sexuality. Meetings give you the chance to talk about your sexual interests with other people who are trying to be comfortable and happy about their sexuality.

Financial/Law

Commonwealth Financial



Aaron McFadden
Chartered Special Needs Consultant
aaronmcfadden@financialguide.com
(617) 526-9382
101 Federal Street, Suite 800

Boston, MA 02110

<http://www.commonwealth.com/>

The SpecialCare Planning Team at Commonwealth Financial Group is proud to support the special needs community. Our passion is in building relationships and helping families plan for their children's future.

Fletcher Tilton PC Attorneys at Law

FletcherTilton_{PC}
Attorneys at law

Frederick M. Misilo, Jr.

fmisilo@fletchertilton.com

(508) 459.8059

161 Worcester Rd # 501

Framingham, MA 01701

<http://www.fletchertilton.com/>

We're Here to Help

Our commitment lasts a lifetime.

Whether your loved one with special needs is an adult or a child, we can help with:

- Special Needs Planning
- Transition Planning & Adult Services
- Guardianship & Alternatives
- Advocacy

River Financial Group



Leo Rotman

CFP

leo@riverfg.com

201 Jones Rd. Suite 640

Waltham, MA 02451

(781) 398- 1351
www.riverfg.com

Leo Rotman, of River Financial Group, focuses on helping families that have children with special needs. I, Leo, am a parent myself and really understand some of the challenges that parents go through. As part of my outreach, I often speak for different parent groups and organizations. This includes other SEPACs, ARCs and non-profits. I spoke a couple of weekends ago at the Federation conference and am speaking for the Sudbury SEPAC in May. My most recent workshop is on transition planning including housing, benefits, estate planning and financial planning

Special Needs Law Group of Massachusetts



Annette Hines
ahines@specialneeds-law.com
(508) 861-3453
20 Speen Street, Suite 101
Framingham MA 01701
www.specialneeds-law.com

Special Needs Law Group of Massachusetts, PC is a small family run law firm with a difference: we care! We pride ourselves in providing a compassionate, comprehensive approach to the wide variety of legal issues that affect families of loved ones with disabilities and the elderly. We have over 40 years combined experience in Elder Law, Estate and Special Needs Planning, Advocacy, and Counsel.

Higher Education

Berkshire Hills Music Academy



Berkshire Hills Music Academy
A Post Secondary Learning Community
Vocational & Independent Living Skills

Michelle Theroux
Executive Director
mtheroux@berkshirehills.org
(413) 540-9720
48 Woodbridge St
South Hadley, MA 01075

<https://www.berkshirehills.org/>

BHMA uses music to help individuals with intellectual disabilities develop skills for communication, independence, and employment. We do this by integrating music programming through a comprehensive curriculum that engages the entire brain, empowering students to advocate for themselves effectively through productive communication and interaction with peers, teaching pre-vocational and vocational skills within a community setting, with job-related support for successful employment, encouraging students to achieve increasing levels of independence through involvement in the local community.

Framingham State Diverse Scholars Program



Framingham
State University

Grace McDonald

Diverse Scholars Program Coordinator

gmcDonald1@framingham.edu

(508) 215-5883

100 State Street

Framingham, MA 01701

<https://www.framingham.edu/academics/center-for-academic-success-and-achievement/diverse-scholars/index>

The Diverse Scholars Program at Framingham State University provides opportunities for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ages 18-22, to engage in FSU courses, internships, and student life. This program is part of a larger state-funded grant program known as the Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative (ICEI). The Diverse Scholars Program believes inclusion and participation by all students is essential for a thriving community of learners.

Institute for Community Inclusion



Tom Sannicandro

Director

Tom.Sannicandro@umb.edu

UMass Boston

<https://www.communityinclusion.org/>

ICI projects and programs involve local, state, and national agencies, schools, institutes of higher education, national service programs, rehabilitation providers, multicultural organizations, employers, and many others. All of these partnerships work to further goals of independence and inclusion. Key interest areas include Employing people with disabilities in community settings supporting children and young adults with special health care needs, accessing general education, and transition from school to adult life, expanding local recreation and school activities to include people with disabilities, promoting technology that aids participation in school/community/work activities, building organizations' ability to serve culturally diverse people with disabilities, examining the impact of national and state policies on people with disabilities and their families.

Lesley University Threshold Program



Joanne Silva
jsilva@lesley.edu
threshold@lesley.edu
(617) 349- 8181
29 Everett Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-2790
<https://lesley.edu/threshold-program>

Threshold at Lesley University is a college-based program for young adults with diverse learning differences. At Threshold, dorm living, student activities, and a curriculum focused on career training and independent living create a college experience that feels both authentic and supported. Students get support from caring faculty and staff at every step of their journey. We're here for them during the two-year core program and after graduation through two programs that guide transition into the working world.

Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

Glenn Gabbard
Coordinator, Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative
ggabbard@dhe.mass.edu
(617) 994-6956
http://www.mass.edu/strategic/read_maicei.asp

Funded by the Commonwealth since 2007, the Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative (MAICEI) offers grants to college-school partnerships to support eligible public high school students with intellectual disabilities, ages 18–22, to increase their academic and career success by being included in a college or university community of learners

MassBay Transitional Scholars Program



Whitney Bowler

Coordinator of Transitional Scholars Program

wbowler@massbay.edu

(781) 239-2625

Wellesley Hills Campus, Room 207

<http://www.massbay.edu/Academics/Transitional-Scholars-Program.aspx>

The Transitional Scholars Program at MassBay is a student centered program designed for transition age students with a documented intellectual disability. This program serves students typically between 18-22 years of age, who may still be receiving special education services from their districts, the opportunity to participate in inclusive college courses (credit or non-credit) to increase their school and work success. Students in the program develop career planning and employment skills, self-advocacy skills, and life skills that will assist them in their post-secondary interests and activities. Students also learn to function independently on the college campus and develop self-determination skills in an adult setting.

Think College



thinkcollege@umb.edu

UMass Boston

100 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

<https://thinkcollege.net/>

Think College is a national organization dedicated to developing, expanding, and improving inclusive higher education options for people with intellectual disability. With a commitment to equity and excellence, Think College supports evidence-based and student-centered research and practice by generating and sharing knowledge, guiding institutional change, informing public policy, and engaging with students, professionals and families.

Camps

Camp Allen



"I choose not to place "DIS" in my ability." ~ Robert M. Hensel

Michael Constance
Executive Director
michaelc@campallennh.org
(603) 622-8471
56 Camp Allen Road
Bedford, NH 03110
<http://campallennh.org/>

More than 450 different campers attend for one or two and even multiple weeks of fun in the great outdoors. Our ratio of 1:2 with 1:1 available allows those campers who may not be able to attend other camps due to age, ability, accessibility or behavioral needs to come to a camp where all are welcome! We are a typical camp with typical camping activities that include swimming, boating, walking in the woods, exploring the wetlands, arts and crafts, music and dance, and everything in between. Our cabins and other buildings, pool and bathrooms are all accessible. Our staff come from all over the world, some have experience and others have a strong desire to make a difference in their world. The campers love learning about other cultures and developing friendships with their peers and counselors.

Camp Howe



Terrie Campbell
Executive Director
executivedirector@camphowe.com
(413) 268-7635
557 East Street
PO Box 326
Goshen, MA 01032
<https://www.camphowe.com/>

Camp Howe provides day, overnight and weekly camping programs for persons of all ages with a primary focus on creating a community in which everyone is included and has a sense of belonging. The camping experience is tailored to accommodate the skill level and changing needs of individuals for the purpose of enhancing their experiences, skills, and abilities in a totally inclusive manner. The intent of the program is to make sure that every camper is comfortable and happy with his or her achievements and limitations.

Helpful Websites

<http://www.pacer.org/transition/>

<https://www.transcen.org/>

<http://www.parentcenterhub.org/>

<http://autismnow.org/>

<http://www.raisecenter.org/>

