



Parent/Guardian Support & Resource Pages Week Ending of December 4th, 2020



CASE Collaborative Community News

Please Join Us! This Workshop is Open to All. Feel Free to Share!
Please RSVP by December 7th, 2020 to scampbell@casecollaborative.org



**THE CASE CONSULTATION, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING FOR
TECHNOLOGY (CETT) TEAM PRESENTS:**

**ZOOM TRAINING FOR PARENTS - TIPS AND TRICKS
TO HELP YOUR CHILD**

THURSDAY, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
DECEMBER 10TH, 2020

You and your child probably have the Zoom basics down, but we want to show you a few things to make your child's experience better. You will also be able to ask questions and share what has helped your child.



To update to the latest version of Zoom click on the link below:
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version>

Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84858642046?pwd=dG9hVj93eUFRKUFuMVp6UWk0S0Rldz09>
Meeting ID: 848 5864 2046
Passcode: Zoom

**Meet Our CETT TEAM –
Q & A Session to Follow
Presentation**

**Please RSVP and Email
your Questions in
Advance to scampbell@casecollaborative.org by
December 7th, 2020**

**** This Workshop
Requires the Latest
Version of Zoom. Click the
Link on the Bottom of the
Flier to Upgrade to the
Latest Version.**

CASE COLLABORATIVE

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Community Workshops and Conferences



Statewide Meeting Highlights Autism and Mental Health - Upstream Wellness: Supporting the Parents/Caregivers of Children Struggling Now

When: December 8, 2020 | Tue 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Format: Virtual via Zoom

On November 10, PPAL welcomed Nancy Parker, the director of Child and Teen Services at the Asperger / Autism Network (AANE) to discuss how Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) intersects with mental health challenges. After an overview of ASD and the strengths and challenges of folks on the spectrum, she discussed various mental health challenges that can co-occur with ASD, such as anxiety and ADHD. She noted that often kids with ASD are misdiagnosed as having certain mental health challenges, when some of the common traits of ASD are mistaken for indicators of conditions such as OCD or bipolar disorder, and provided helpful coping strategies for kids and parents. Parents applauded the presentation, saying that it "provided a wealth of information and knowledge to assist kids that may otherwise be misunderstood," and describing Nancy as "engaging, upbeat and passionate about these topics." Be sure to join PPAL for our next statewide meeting on December 8! This upcoming webinar meant only for parents / caregivers/family members/family partners of children with behavioral health needs. Gain critical information and support during this time of public health crisis.

About the speakers:

* Annemarie Matulis understands what families are dealing with when a child exhibits extreme behaviors, self-harm, suicidal ideation, and more. Annemarie wants to dismiss the myths to help find support for families. That includes upstream wellness for caregivers as well as honest information and real-time supports. Annemarie is the Executive Director for Bristol County Regional Coalition for Suicide Prevention, a Suicide Prevention Consultant for MA DPH for the Greater Taunton Area, and the Director for A Voice at the Table – an international, grassroots movement for the family/friends impacted by the suicidal crisis of a loved one (struggling with suicidal thoughts, NSSI (non-suicidal self-injury and/or a suicidal attempt).

* Meagan Manas will continue the conversation with information about MassSupport. MassSupport provides confidential (unidentified) support for individuals in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese. MassSupport is a division of Riverside and is funded by FEMA. Meagan Manas is an Outreach Crisis Counselor for MassSupport 's Central Massachusetts region. In addition to helping residents of Central MA cope with the effects of the pandemic, Meagan is working on her final year of a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling. She is also the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Clinton, MA, a diverse and affirming multi-cultural congregation.

Registration:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ehewghdk0f1f6e27&oseq=&c=59514330-4233-11e3-9b3c-782bcb740129&ch=73a0fda0-61a8-11e7-bc35-d4ae52754db0> or contact Statewide Planning Team, Parent/Professional Advocacy League, 508-767-9725, statewide@ppal.net

* When signing up, please indicate in your email that you are a parent or a family member, the age of your child with behavioral health needs and your wish for a specific topic regarding her presentation. *information provided by www.spedchildmass.com

A FAMILY EMPOWERMENT AND AUTISM CONNECTIONS WEBINAR

APPLY THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE

you can do this!

Coordinating Your Special Needs Financial & Estate Plan *and maximizing government benefits*

Tuesday, December 8, 6:00p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
with Caleb Harty, CFP®, Financial Advisor* and Founder and Principal -
Harty Financial

Topics in this free, community webinar include maximizing government benefits, preserving government benefits via estate planning techniques, financial planning (creating a long-term budget for child, how to efficiently fund special needs trust), the ABLE Act, and more.

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
RSVP: RSVPs are required for this online event. Register [HERE](#).
Questions: michelle.mendes@pathlightgroup.org

 **Family Empowerment**
a Pathlight program



 **Autism
Connections**
a Pathlight Program





Transition and Beyond (ages 14-22)

SAVE THE DATE

12 08 20

TUESDAY

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

VIRTUAL TRANSITION ROUNDTABLE EVENT
PRESENTED BY HOLLISTON, NATICK AND NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ON POST-SECONDARY TRANSITION OPTIONS FROM LOCAL AND STATE
ADULT SERVICE PROVIDERS

LIVE PRESENTATION ON NATICK SCHOOLS YOUTUBE CHANNEL
[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/IG01XA00KUS](https://youtu.be/IG01xA00KUS)

2020 TRANSITION ROUNDTABLE
for students and families in Natick, Newton, Holliston, & Wellesley

Live in 5 days
December 8, 6:00 PM

Set reminder

Transition Roundtable - The Collaboration Council hosting a Transition Roundtable. This virtual roundtable is hosted by the school districts of Natick, Newton, Holliston, and Wellesley. Watch this live YouTube event here.

<https://youtu.be/IG01xA00KUS>



MA College Programs for Students with Disabilities

When: December 8, 2020 | Tue 12:00 pm

Format: Webinar

This webinar will be focused on Massachusetts college programs designed for students with diagnosed learning disabilities and/or other learning challenges who could benefit from additional academic support while enrolled in a traditional college curriculum. Panelists include Sarah Lazare and Kate Shea of Westfield State University, Paula Cocce of Curry College, and Brittany Goodwin of Dean College. To request closed captioning or any other accommodations on a webinar, please contact Lauren Patten at lpatten@mefa.org or 617-224-4856 at least one week in advance of the webinar. To register visit https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uT7o2pvbRb6w5W6_vib8xA



Smart Home Technology

When: December 10, 2020 | Thu 1:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Aging in place is all about maintaining independence and reducing social isolation. In this training, you will learn about the different varieties of smart home technology, including but not limited to hubs, plugs and sensors. We will also give a brief explanation on how these smart home devices can make a home more accessible. To register visit

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvcO-hqjgtE9WO4b--9ng5YDlGglwXuVXs>



FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Basic Rights: Transition Planning (for IEP students ages 14-22) presented by Christine Riley

When: December 14, 2020 | Mon 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Please join the Federation for Children with Special Needs on Monday December 14, 2020 at 6:00pm for our Basic Rights: Transition Planning (for IEP students ages 14-22) workshop presented by Christine Riley. This presentation addresses the planning involved when a student is of transition age. The importance of planning, the roles of both parent/guardian and student and the student's post-secondary vision. We will discuss how to prepare for the transition planning meeting, the age of majority, and procedural due process rights for resolving disputes.

Please sign up to attend through our Zoom registration link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAldOqqpjwrGtftT9isbckvVpt7FbQPUwbC> Zoom will confirm your registration by email which will include your meeting link to join. All handouts will be sent to attendees from our workshop coordinator, Kristin LaRose, within 24 hours of the presentation.



Community Support



Celebrate IDEA's 45TH Anniversary Congress enacted the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, also known as the EHA, in 1975 to support states and localities in protecting the rights of, meeting the individual needs of, and improving the results for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities and their families. WHA was modeled after M.G.L. Chapter 766, the first non-categorical law guaranteeing all children the right to a free appropriate public education. This landmark law's name changed to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA, in a 1990 reauthorization. Before EHA, many children were denied access to education and opportunities to learn. In 1970, U.S. schools educated only one in five children with disabilities, and many states had laws excluding certain students, including children who were deaf, blind, emotionally disturbed, or had an intellectual disability. Visit the IDEA 45th Anniversary Page - <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/idea-45-years-later/> - and celebrate IDEA with us!



High School Scholarship Available

Scholarship application for MA high school senior who is Deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or has difficulty speaking. As the Telecommunications Relay and/or Captioned Telephone service provider for Massachusetts, Hamilton Relay acknowledges that opportunities for higher education affect the future of Massachusetts high school students. We are pleased to once again extend the Hamilton Relay Scholarship opportunity to graduating high school seniors in Massachusetts who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or have difficulty speaking to assist in their goals of continuing their education. We would appreciate your assistance in sharing the attached scholarship application and information with eligible students. Hamilton Relay selects one candidate from each of the states where Hamilton is the contracted service provider. All candidates are required to submit an application, write an essay under the topic of communication technology and provide a letter of recommendation in order to qualify. The application documents can also be found online at <http://www.hamiltonrelay.com/scholarship>. The scholarship deadline is January 30, 2021 and applications must be received or postmarked by that date. The scholarship is in the amount of \$500 and the winner will be determined on or before March 1, 2021. If you have any questions about Hamilton Relay or the Hamilton Relay Scholarship Program, please contact me directly. My contact information is Sudan N. Bradley | Hamilton Relay C: 610.209.3207 | sudan.bradley@hamiltonrelay.com



DDS Encourages Everyone in the DDS Community to Get a Flu Shot this Season.

It is important for all individuals, family members, providers, and staff to get a flu shot this season! Protect yourself. Protect your family. Protect your community. The flu spreads easily from person to person. It can be very serious. There are simple things you can do to protect yourself, your friends, family, and your community from the spread of influenza. With this information you can learn more about the flu and the best ways to keep you and your family healthy. Please see these the informative documents & links at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dds-encourages-everyone-in-the-dds-community-to-get-a-flu-shot-this-season?blm_aid=34829



Fun Activities and Recreation



Fun, Friends and Family December Program Sponsored by Foundation for MetroWest - Karaoke Night

When: December 18, 2020 | Fri 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Roman Music Therapy will join us on Zoom for a night of singing. Choose your favorite songs and we will sing all together. There will also be opportunities for solos. All are invited to join in the fun! No registration is necessary. This event is free thanks to a generous grant from the Foundation for MetroWest. Advocates Fun, Friends, & Family events are open to individuals with disabilities who are 16 and older, staff who support them, their families, and friends. We welcome members of the Advocates community, as well as those interested in learning more about us. Click on the following for Zoom link. https://www.autismalliance.org/events/fun-friends-and-family-zoom-karaoke?blm_aid=34829



12th annual Festival of Trees

When: November 27 - December 20, 2020

Where: The Gardens at Elm Bank, 900 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA

A Magical Holiday event for the Whole Family. Massachusetts Horticultural Society's twelfth Festival of Trees showcases dozens of decorated trees as well as Snow Village, including a model railroad display. This annual event takes place at the Society's headquarters at The Gardens at Elm Bank, 900 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482. The venues are handicapped accessible. Mostly displayed in the Hunnewell Building, the Festival offers beautifully decorated holiday trees that are donated and decorated by local businesses, garden clubs and other organizations, and individuals. Visitors 'vote' with their raffle tickets, selecting the tree(s) they would like to win at the end of the event.

Tree sizes vary from one foot to nine feet in height and some have gifts in addition to the decorations. This year there will also be a virtual Festival in addition to the physical display. Another and totally different experience is provided by Snow Village, an indoor exhibit occupying a whole room. This large display features model trains winding their way through villages and vignettes, including Christmas in the City (Boston of course!), Fenway Park, a Dickensian village, the North Pole and hundreds of decorated houses and lights. There are too many Santas to count as well as skaters galore. This is a visual treat for young and old alike and each year it is a little different. Outside there are decorations in The Gardens at Elm Bank. Visitors can keep warm and cozy melting S'mores at the fire pit. Timed-entry tickets must be purchased in advance. In strict observance of all COVID protocols, visitors will be escorted through the Festival in small groups. Purchase Tickets here <http://masshort.org/Festival-of-Trees/> **this event is not disability specific*



Waltham Lions Drive-Through Holiday Light Show

When: November 27, 2020 – January 3rd, 2020

Where: 200 Trapelo Road, Former Fernald School, Waltham, MA

Over 1 mile of roadway transformed into a glittering display of over 1 million LED lights and animatronic scenes. Listen to music played through FM radio in your own vehicle during this safe, holiday experience. All tickets must be purchased on-line at <https://greaterbostonlightshow.com/> **this event is not disability specific*



Enjoy the Magic of Christmas! - By popular demand we continue the tradition in a safe and responsible way.

When: November 7, 2020 – December 24, 2020

Where: Various Store Locations

Free photo with Santa. Kids can mail their letter to Santa and bring home a craft kit. All activities + photo are free. Details here Must reserve in advance online. Each day opens 7 days in advance, at midnight. Bass Pro spots fill almost immediately. Cabela's spots tend to last longer before filling. Learn more here

https://www.basspro.com/shop/en/santas-wonderland?cm_sp=StWndldNov2017_HMR **this event is not disability specific*



Winter Wonderland at Southwick's Zoo

When: November 27th, 2020 - December 30th, 2020 | Wed – Sun 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Closed Mondays & Tuesdays, *Closed December 25th

Where: Southwick's Zoo, Mendon MA

Take a magical journey through Southwick's Zoo with friends and family to view spectacular holiday lights! This year's Winter Wonderland will be a drive thru, so guests will stay cozy and warm in their vehicles as they venture through the zoo. The Winter Wonderland Drive Thru tour will take guests through the Frozen Forest where they may spot a few of our fallow deer. Guests will also drive through Whoville to encounter the Grinch himself. Don't forget to keep an eye out for the yeti! Park your vehicle, either before or after your Drive Thru tour, and stroll through Santa's Enchanted Village. Here guests can enjoy a socially distanced meet and greet with Santa Claus as well as entertainment, interactive musical lights, reindeer games, a petting zoo (we know how much our visitors miss the goats over the winter!), and more. Concessions will be available in this area, so be sure to warm up with a hot toddy or smores! The Purple Peacock Gift Shop will be open for holiday shopping, so be sure to stop by for gifts and to say hello to Mrs. Claus. Galliford's Restaurant & Tavern will also be open and offering holiday themed food and drink specials. For ticketing information <https://southwickszoo.com/winter-wonderland/> **this event is not disability specific*

OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

Christmas by Candlelight 2020 - An Outdoor New England Holiday Tradition

When: December 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 23 & 27-30, 2020

Where: Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge MA

Come experience the history of Christmas traditions at Old Sturbridge Village. Our programs are designed with your safety in mind – featuring a vast array of outdoor festivities. Relish old traditions and create new ones as we highlight homemade Christmas decor. See demonstrations of classic Christmas projects like knitting stockings, wreath making, and making natural ornaments. Watch as we make a traditional Christmas meal, punch tin lanterns, make ice skates or a sled, and other special projects. You'll enjoy strolling from the Common to the Countryside as you enjoy our festive, outdoor decorations, Christmas Tree Trail, and Christmas Wish Bridge. And Christmas by Candlelight wouldn't be complete without a horse-drawn carryall ride and warming up by the bonfires. We hope your family will join ours, as we celebrate a very special Christmas. To learn more and purchase tickets visit <https://www.osv.org/event/christmas-by-candlelight-2020/> **this event is not disability specific*



Drive-Through Holiday Light Show at the Lancaster Fairgrounds

When: November 25 – January 3rd

Where: Lancaster Fairgrounds, 318 Seven Bridge Road, Lancaster MA

Over 1 mile of roadway is transformed into a glittering display of over 1 million LED lights — featuring a 90' Christmas Tree and 85' giant LED wreath! Listen to music played through FM radio in your own vehicle during this safe, holiday experience. To learn more and for tickets visit <https://lancasterlightshow.com/> **this event is not disability specific*



7th Annual Festival of Lights Day 1 of 4

When: December 12, 13, 19, 20, 2020 | 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: KOA, 438 Plymouth St, Middleborough, MA

Drive through acres decorated with over 500,000 lights. Due to Covid19 people must remain in their cars. If you would just like more information about the Festival, contact us at discovermiddleborough@gmail.com, visit us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MiddleboroToday/>

This event is sponsored by Middleborough Tourism Committee, Rockland Trust and the Mass & Local Cultural Councils. To learn more and purchase tickets visit <https://www.facebook.com/MiddleboroToday/events/> **this event is not disability specific*



Bright Nights at Forest Park

When: November 25, 2020 - January 6, 2021

Where: Bright Nights at Forest Park, 300 Sumner Avenue | Springfield, MA

Bright Nights at Forest Park opens for its 26th season. The lights will be lit from November 25th through January 6th. Tickets must be purchased in advance online or at Big Y World Class Market. Bright Nights will have COVID-19 safety protocols in place and will only be a drive through experience. Pure Magic

Since 1995, Bright Nights has been a unique public/private collaboration between the City of Springfield's Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management and the Spirit of Springfield, a private non-profit organization. Together they have welcomed more than 6 million visitors. It has been calculated that if every bus that had visited were lined bumper to bumper, they would go from Springfield to Cape Cod. The cars would go as far as California. **this event is not disability specific*



Boston Pops 2020 Holiday Celebration

When: December 10, 2020 | Thu 12:00 pm

Format: Online Event

Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops Orchestra in holiday classics old and new to both inspire you with hope and create holiday cheer this year. From the Pops' classic "Sleigh Ride" and brilliant "Twelve Days of Christmas" to jazzy arrangements of traditional favorites, you'll also hear "O Holy Night," "Home for the Holidays," a virtual performance with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and a special new reading of "A Visit from St. Nicholas" ("'Twas the Night Before Christmas"). Special highlights for young audiences include "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers" accompanied by an imaginative musical film in collaboration with FableVision Studios, a virtual performance of "Christmas Time is Here" by the Boston Symphony Children's Choir, and the Pops tradition of a singalong of your favorites to make the season bright. Sensory supports will be available for families with children or adults diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder or sensory sensitivities. Portions of this Holiday Pops program were filmed at Fenway Park, where team mascot Wally participated in the recording festivities. Available to stream online starting December 10 at 12PM through January 9. *this event is not disability specific

2020 LA SALETTE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS
LIGHT FROM AFAR
November 26, 2020 - January 3, 2021
ILLUMINATIONS DAILY FROM 5:00-9:00pm

2020 Christmas Guest Guidelines

Over the past few months, we've received several inquiries about how we are planning on handling the Christmas Celebration during COVID-19. Below, you will find a list of guidelines that we have put forward for all those visiting this year. Please take time to review them before visiting! *While on our property, all guests are required to wear a facial mask covering both their nose and mouth at all times, BOTH INDOORS AND OUTDOORS.

*Guests/family groups must maintain a social distance of 6 feet from others while BOTH INDOORS AND OUTDOORS.

*At 8:30 pm, all buildings open to the public will close. We will announce a reminder at 8:00 pm. Please plan accordingly.

*The lights will be turned off promptly at 9:00 pm and all guests are asked that they vacate the property by that time.

*Be advised, every indoor area is subject to occupancy limits to respect a social distance of 6 feet. Learn more here <https://lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/christmas-festival> *this event is not disability specific



Annual Holiday Events Closed for 2020

*Enchanted Village: Jordan's Furniture in Avon

*Christmas Festival of Lights: Edaville, Carver

*Night Lights & Winter Wonderland: Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, Boylston

*Blink!: Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston MA



Family Support & Special Interest



Teen Support Group

When: December 2nd, 2020 – February 9th, 2020 | Tue 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm (No meetings 12/29 & 2/2)

Format: Virtual via Zoom

Calling all Yachad teens - hang out with the New England social work interns in a SAFE SPACE to talk, listen to music, vent, share, and relax with friends. All teens are welcome! For information contact Yaffa Tilles, tillesy@ou.org
To join click: <https://zoom.us/j/96496941368>



Pandemic Helpline Launches for People With IDD, Caregivers

As the COVID-19 pandemic wears on, a new 24-hour support line is working to help individuals with developmental disabilities and those who care for them cope during this tough time. Known as Project Connect, the telehealth line is free and available anytime for people with disabilities, their families, caregivers and other members of their support teams across the nation. Read full article here <https://www.disabilitycoop.com/2020/12/03/pandemic-helpline-launches-for-people-with-idd-caregivers/29105/>

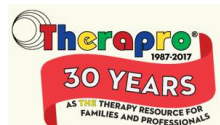
WRAPAROUND FAMILY SERVICES

Low Cost Internet Options in MA: this list includes companies, price, area served, application and notes/eligibility

https://www.wraparoundfamily.org/uploads/4/2/8/9/42898129/internet_services.xlsx



Fat Brain Toys provide a comprehensive resource where caregivers of individuals with special needs can go to find information on developmentally appropriate toys, games and tools. https://www.fatbraintoy.com/special_needs/



Therapro

Educational resources for all ages and abilities, from kids to adults. A great resource for gifts.

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

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