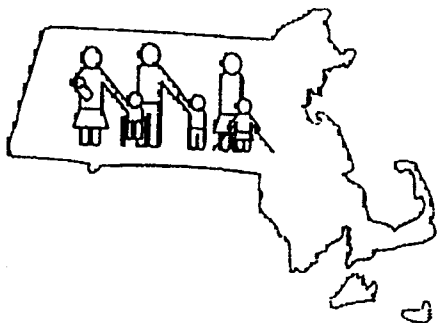


Family TIES of Massachusetts



Together In Enhancing Support

*Parent to parent information and support
network for families of children with
special needs.*

Polly Sherman

Family TIES Network Director

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Southeast Regional Office

109 Rhode Island Road

Lakeville, MA 02347

508-947-1231; 617-727-9296 ext. 5144

TTY: 508-947-0977 FAX: 617-727-9296

polly.sherman@state.ma.us

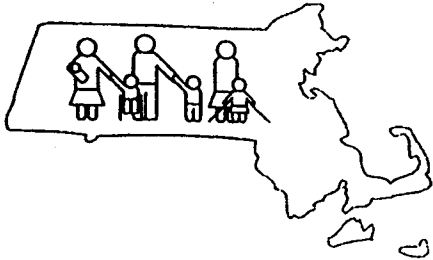
Call 1-800-905-TIES

or visit our web site

www.massfamilyties.org

Family Ties is a project of the
Federation for Children with Special Needs

About Family TIES



Family TIES is a statewide information and support network for families of children with disabilities or chronic illness. It is supported by the Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family and Community Health, Division for Special Health Care Needs, in collaboration with the Federation for Children with Special Needs.

Family TIES is also the Central Directory for Early Intervention programs throughout the state.

How We Can Help

We want you to know that you are not alone. As parents of children with special needs, we realize that the most powerful source of support is other parents.

Sharing up-to-date information can provide all family members with knowledge and skills that can help to improve our children's opportunities.

Family TIES does not offer medical advice, nor does it make recommendations of any particular physician, clinic, or agency. We provide options by informing families of their community resources.

Family TIES Is Here for You

Regional Parent Coordinators are available to help anyone who is involved in caring for a child with disabilities or chronic illness. Please feel free to call or write the Coordinator for your area. The toll free number for Family TIES in Massachusetts is 1-800-905-TIES; additional numbers and addresses are on the other side of this brochure.

Family TIES Parent Coordinators will:

- Provide up-to-date information and resources
- Invite you to attend our Next Steps skillbuilding workshop series
- Match you with another parent through our parent to parent program
- Offer you training to become a support parent for other families
- Inform you of upcoming workshops and conferences
- Provide you with a list of support groups in your region
- Connect you with Family Voices, a national health care initiative
- Provide you with the Family TIES Resource Directory. View it on our website.

www.massfamilyties.org

Family TIES Mailing List

If you would like to be on the mailing list for Family TIES activities, please fill out this form and return it to the address listed on the back.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Parent/Family member

Professional

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Disability: _____

Sibling Names/DOB: _____

I am interested in learning about:

Support Groups for _____

Workshops on _____

The Federation for Children with Special Needs

Information on _____

I would like to talk to a Family TIES coordinator:

Yes No

What is Parent to Parent?

Parent to Parent happens whenever and wherever one parent of a child with a disability or special health care needs offers or receives support from another parent. When you call Family TIES you will speak with another parent.

If you would like to be matched with a parent of a child with the same diagnosis or health concern, or if you have had more experience with your child's disability and feel you can offer support to another parent, please fill out the form below.

I would like to be matched with another parent who has experience with _____

I would like to hear about being a Family TIES support parent.

A Family TIES coordinator will be calling you for more information.

Please return to your Regional Coordinator.

Parents Are Our Strength Family TIES Coordinators

Kathleen Barrett-Lewis
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Metrowest Regional Office
5 Randolph Street
Canton, MA 02021
781-828-7190

Barbara Donati
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Central Regional Office
180 Beaman Street
West Boylston, MA 01583
508-792-7880 ext. 2337

Karen Higgins
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Western Regional Office
23 Service Center
Northampton, MA 01060
413-586-7525; 800-445-1255 ext. 1133

Mary Lee Gupta
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Boston Regional Office, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital
180 Morton Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617-727-1115 ext. 6324

Nancy Barrett
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Southeast Regional Office
109 Rhode Island Road
Lakeville, MA 02347
508-947-1231 ext. 5130

Barbara Round
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Northeast Regional Office, Tewksbury Hospital
Tewksbury, MA 01876
978-851-7261; 617-727-7908 ext. 4018

Family TIES Network Director
Polly Sherman ext. 5144
Southeast Regional Office in Lakeville
Family TIES Coordinator of Family Support
Joanne Spencer ext. 5180
Southeast Regional Office in Lakeville