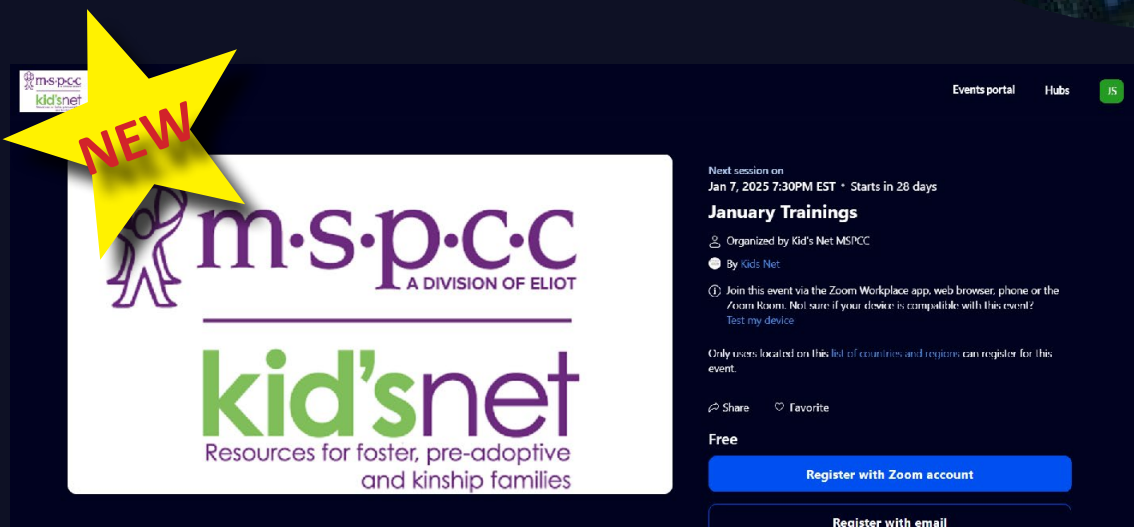


STATEWIDE TRAINING

April 2025

All trainings are open to parents across Massachusetts and are provided **FREE** of charge.



PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE:
We heard your feedback. We have added closed captioning and multiple language options for the presentations. We are pleased to now offer a SINGLE REGISTRATION option for monthly training! Instead of selecting and registering for each session independently, the link below will bring you to the Zoom registration page which includes all training events being presented this month. You can select the trainings that are of interest to you, all at once... Register using the link below.

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, 4/1
Finances and Tax Information for Foster and Adoptive Parents,
Helene Leue
7:30-9:00pm

Tax season is here! Do you have questions? Join us to get answers! A foster parent herself, Helene will help to answer any questions you may have and provide helpful financial tips!

Wednesday, 4/3
Centering the Child in High Conflict Situations,
Gwenn Bass
7:30-9:00pm

Often, kids in our care have many adults involved in their lives. Each person holds a different piece of the child's puzzle and positive collaborations help ensure that kids get what they need. In this session we discuss strategies for diffusing tensions and centering the child when there is conflict about how to support our kids and their complex needs. Dr. Bass is a researcher and educator, who provides consultation and training for caregivers, teachers, and social workers. Dedicated to improving outcomes for children who have experienced trauma, she presents regularly on inclusive classroom practices, resilience-building parenting strategies, and trauma-sensitive teaching.

Monday, 4/7
Culturally Responsive Foster Parenting,
Judith Willison
7:30-9:30pm

This session introduces participants to cultural responsiveness and reviews knowledge and skills that support parenting strategies with diverse children and youth. We explore avenues to embrace cultural humility, celebrate multicultural identity development, deepen communication, uncover stereotypes, and overcome implicit bias.

Judith Willison PhD, LICSW is a retired associate professor and current research fellow at Bridgewater State University School of Social Work. Wendy Champagnie Williams PhD, LICSW is an associate professor, the Graduate Chair and Coordinator of the MSW Program at Bridgewater State University School of Social Work.

Tuesday, 4/8
Understanding Temperament,
Cindy Horgan
7:30-9:00pm

When parents and caregivers understand a child's inborn temperament it is a key to preventing behavior problems. Learn to create a goodness of fit with your child and the people in your life. Learn to use everyday opportunities as teachable moments with our children. Cindy Horgan is the Director Family Support Services of the Cape Cod Children's Place in North Eastham. Her background is in Family Work began with her work with teen parents in residential care. She is trained in many curriculums and provides both family support and education in many of our communities.

Thursday, 4/10
Infant Safety,
Lisa Bingley
10:30am-12:00pm

Infants rely on caregivers to maintain a safe environment and to practice safe techniques. In this session, we will share tips and resources to assist you in providing respectful and careful caregiving with our youngest children. We will review preparing a safe environment as well as how to manage challenges that commonly arise during this developmental stage. Presented by Lisa Bingley, MEd, is a Developmental Specialist at MENTOR Early Intervention.

Monday, 4/14
Tips and Tricks of Handwriting,
Audrie Vantangoli
7:30-9:00pm

Join pediatric occupational therapist and owner of Get A Grip Occupational Therapy, Audrie Vantangoli, MOT, OTR/L, CPRCS, in presenting: Tips and Tricks of Handwriting. Feeling at a loss with your child's handwriting skills, especially in a world of technology, join this training to learn the "Tips and Tricks of Handwriting". This training will cover developmentally appropriate activities, strategies and expectations for your child to improve their writing skills.

Wednesday, 4/16
Focusing on Intersectionality,
GBPFLAG
7:30-9:00pm

In the complex landscape of identity, this Training spotlights the intersection of diverse identities within the LGBTQ+ community. Explore how identities like race, ethnicity, ability, and socio-economic background intersect with held identities of gender and sexual orientation. Participants will gain a critical understanding of the unique challenges and experiences faced by individuals navigating multiple identities on both a social and legal level. Expand awareness, challenge assumptions, and build a more equitable and understanding environment for all. Training is presented by, Greater Boston PFLAG.

Wednesday, 4/30
Caring for Teens,
Michael Medeiros
6:30-8:00pm

There are a high number of teens in need of out-of-home placements in Massachusetts, yet foster or pre-adoptive families are sometimes reluctant to accept teen placements for a variety of reasons. Adolescent years can be a time of ups and downs for all youth, and parents often struggle with understanding how best to support the teenagers in their care. Join us as we demystify the teen experience, highlighting important aspects of adolescent development, and discuss strategies for having a positive impact in working with teens. Hosted by trainer, foster and adoptive parent - Michael Medeiros.