

STATEWIDE TRAINING

April 2024

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

Tuesday, 4/2

LGBTQ+ Identity, Expression, and Transgender 101 (Part 1)

Tate Duffy
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

Understand LGBTQ+ terminology and the practice of inclusive language in this Training. Participants will be able to distinguish between gender identity, gender expression, sex assigned at birth, and sexual orientation as separate but intersecting aspects of one's identity. Exploring Transgender identity, participants will practice pronoun usage and allyship techniques to support gender-expansive individuals. Engage in thought-provoking discussions to enhance your skill in embracing inclusive language and fostering affirmation. This Training equips you with the tools to cultivate an attitude of respect and understanding for LGBTQ+ identities. Training is presented by, Greater Boston PFLAG: your partner in creating inclusive spaces that radiate belonging and empowerment for all, regardless of races, ethnicities, genders, sexualities, abilities, and beliefs; All of us together creating a caring, just, and affirming world for all LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

Thursday, 4/4

Welcoming a Child

Helene Leue
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

The moment of welcoming a child into our home can help set the tone for the placement. In this workshop we will look at ways to welcome a child, explain our home culture, and set the entire household up for success. Helene Leue was a foster parent for over 15 years who, with the other members of her household, welcomed over 300 children to her home for short and long term stays.

Saturday 4/6

Compassion Fatigue

Dr. John DeGarmo
10:00-11:30am

This is a Saturday Class

[Register Here](#)

This session will focus on the condition known as Compassion Fatigue, or Secondary Traumatic Stress. During the presentation, participants will learn about the realities of compassion fatigue, and how it affects their foster parenting. Participants will learn strategies designed to best address this form of stress, and how to best treat it. Dr. John DeGarmo is an international expert in parenting and foster care and is a TEDx Talk presenter. Dr. John is the founder and director of The Foster Care Institute. He and his wife have had over 60 children from foster care come through their home.

Monday 4/8

Marriage and Foster Parenting

Dr. John DeGarmo
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

This session focuses on the difficulties that caring for a foster child can bring to a marriage. During this presentation, participants will come to understand the many challenges that foster parents face in their marriage while foster parenting. Participants will be equipped with strategies designed to help strengthen their marriage, their family, and their foster parenting. Dr. John DeGarmo is an international expert in parenting and foster care and is a TEDx Talk presenter. Dr. John is the founder and director of The Foster Care Institute. He and his wife have had over 60 children from foster care come through their home.

Thursday 4/9

What can't my child make friends?

Donna Shea
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

This workshop explores the barriers to friendship that may be preventing a child from having positive peer relationships. We'll explore how to help a child recognize and overcome these barriers, the important role that adults play in social coaching and tips on how to teach children social independence and increase their social success. Donna Shea, Founder of The Peter Pan Center, is a social coach and educator. Since opening her center in 2002, she has worked to address the needs of families whose children are struggling with behavior and social challenges. Donna brings 37 years of life experience to her work as a parent of two sons with ADHD, Anxiety and Sensory Integration Challenges.

Thursday 4/11

The Foster Parent's role in the Trauma Healing Process - The Therapeutic Apology

William Painter
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

From the lens of trauma treatment the foster parent is already providing the first and essential step of trauma treatment whether they know it or not by the provision of physical safety and needs. This workshop and combination skills lab provides the foster parent information and practice on how to continue the trauma healing as they provide the emotional safety for healing of trauma in their home as the child enters and anytime needed throughout their stay in their home. William E. Painter Jr., MS has become known throughout his 40 year plus career as a national pioneer in the field of family preservation. He has guided the development of the practitioner developed home based trauma model of Family Centered Treatment®. William raised his biological children, fostered long and short term placements and has adopted domestically through foster care and internationally.

Monday 4/22

TCC Centrada en el Trauma Para Servicios de Acogida

Jonathan Alicea
7:30-9:00 pm

Oportunidad de Formación en Español

[Register Here](#)

El trastorno de estrés postraumático es un fenómeno clínico inusual y a menudo devastador, con síntomas angustiantes y la capacidad de cambiar aparentemente la personalidad de la persona que lo presenta. Los padres de crianza pueden no saber cómo responder a esto y pueden sentirse frustrados porque sus habilidades establecidas, que funcionan bien en otras condiciones, parecen ser redundantes con el (PTSD) el trastorno de estrés postraumático. Este curso es para padres de crianza que necesitan saber sobre el trastorno de estrés postraumático, cómo ayudar a sus hijos inicialmente a disminuir los síntomas, luego procesar el trauma y, en última instancia, avanzar hacia el crecimiento y el desarrollo post-trauma. Esta capacitación es impartida en español por Jonathan Alicea. Jonathan es un consejero mental autorizado y fundador de Latino Counseling Center, Inc. Jonathan había estado trabajando para varias agencias de salud mental y, yendo a la escuela para recibir asesoramiento, había en su corazón el deseo de ayudar a la comunidad de más rápido crecimiento que necesita atención mental. intervención en crisis de salud, la comunidad latina

Tuesday 4/23

Teaching Discipline: Helping Children & Youth to Manage Behavior

Micheal Medeiros
6:30-8:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

Helping Children Manage Behavior is a refresher for parents reviewing concepts covered in MAPP Training. This is a comprehensive review of effective behavior management strategies. Presented by experienced trainer, foster and adoptive parent - Michael Medeiros.

Wednesday 4/24

Question Persuade Refer,

Katie Pfeiffer
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

Question Persuade Refer, known simply as QPR, is a training in which participants will learn three simple steps to help prevent suicide and be a resource for someone who might be struggling. This program is offered through the Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) program at Family Services of the Merrimack Valley in Lawrence, MA. The program coordinator, Katie Pfeiffer, has been working in the mental health and suicide prevention field for three years and is passionate about each respective cause. Katie Pfeiffer, has been working in the mental health and suicide prevention field for three years and is passionate about each respective cause. She enjoys having conversations about mental health, especially if it helps someone who is struggling. She holds a Bachelors of Science degree and is set to graduate with her Masters of Public Health this Spring! Katie has previous experience as a peer advocate regarding mental health, suicide, and sexual violence. Registration is limited to 30 people - *Registration through eventbrite

Tuesday, 4/30

Managing Behaviors

Donna Shea
7:30-9:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

When you are a parent of a child with learning, behavior or social challenges, the relationship between home and school is important, but can also be difficult. In this workshop, we will talk about common issues that arise between home and school, signals that things are falling apart, communication between parents and teachers, when and how to ask for an evaluation of a child's learning process and how to work together instead of at odds. Donna Shea, Founder of The Peter Pan Center, is a social coach and educator. Since opening her center in 2002, she has worked to address the needs of families whose children are struggling with behavior and social challenges. Donna brings 37 years of life experience to her work as a parent of two sons with ADHD, Anxiety and Sensory Integration Challenges