



cape cod children's place FAMILY NEWSLETTER

for families and caregivers of children

Join Our Celebration

THANK YOU! To the Town of Yarmouth for collaborating with us for our incredibly successful Family Fun Fair on May 3 at the Flax Pond Recreation Area.... THANK YOU! To the Boston Children's Museum for providing the training and materials for the School Readiness Program we held this spring.... THANK YOU! To Stonewood Products for donating materials for our Cape Cod Countdown to Kindergarten event.... THANK YOU! To the Brewster Natural History Museum for collaborating with us to offer the museum and staff for our Countdown to Kindergarten Event on June 10..... THANK YOU! to the Cape Cod National Seashore and outreach coordinator, John Hanlon for partnering with us to offer families two evenings of exploration and learning at the Seashore!

And THANK YOU! To everyone who has been on this journey with us over the past 30 years. We look forward to moving forward together!

Many aspects of daily life on the Cape have changed since Cape Cod Children's Place celebrated opening its doors 30 years ago. But some things haven't changed at all: families trying to raise their children and make a living here need all the help they can get.

Originally funded by a grant from the MA Executive Office of Communities and Development, our center's programs and services were designed through a process that involved extensive community input. Many parents were among the 200-plus people who attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for our newly completed building on June 28, 1995. They heard State EOCD Secretary Mary Padula say that Cape Cod Children's Place was one of her favorite projects among the hundreds funded by her agency. What made us special, she said, was our mission to offer support to parents as well as children.

That mission has continued to guide us in the intervening years as we've expanded our programs and our service region. Visit our website capecodchildrensplace.com to learn more and

find out some of the ways we are celebrating this milestone under the "30th anniversary" tab.

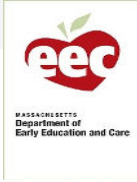
Our very first brochure, distributed to the community before our building was completed, stated that we were "a family resource center that will operate through partnerships within the community to support and strengthen the wellbeing of children, youth and families." That brochure listed issues identified by parents that were already being targeted by focus groups, following the many community meetings we held in the winter of 1993-94.

From those early meetings, Cape Cod Children's Place was designed and created. It was a grassroots process, initiated and developed through engagement with our community. And as families' needs have evolved, our programs have evolved with them. As we celebrate this anniversary year, we recognize with gratitude and appreciation all those who have supported us on our journey. We invite you to join us in celebrating the past 30 years and helping us to remain of, by and for the communities which we serve.

Elizabeth Aldred

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Grants & Community Engagement

Grant Funding 2026 Fiscal Year

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

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Thank you to our current funders, our partners in strengthening families on the Cape and Islands!

Cape Associates, Cape & Islands United Way, Cape Cod Commission
Cape Cod Healthcare Foundation, Cape Cod Times Neighbors Fund
Church of the Holy Spirit, District Attorney Cape & Islands, Federated Church of Orleans
Edward Bangs Kelley and Elza Kelley Foundation, Hawk Foundation
Lyndon Paul Lorusso Charitable Foundation, Mass Cultural Council,
MA Department of Early Education and Care, MA Department of Public Health,
Michael H. Cole Charitable Giving Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation
Seamen's Bank Long Point Charitable Foundation, Spark Foundation
Roessner Family Foundation, Peter and Elizabeth Tower Foundation.
Towns of Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Eastham, Harwich, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro,
and Wellfleet.

* * *

As always, thank you to Seamen's Bank for your decades of support!

Early Childhood Councils & Community Engagement

Our early childhood councils and other community groups will resume meeting in the fall. Look on our website and social media for information, or email info@capecodchildrensplace.com

Early Childhood Screening Opportunity

Screening young children is an effective, efficient way for professionals to take a look at a child's development, help parents celebrate their child's milestones, know what to look for next, and support parents as their child's first teacher. Screening is also an essential first step toward identifying children with delays or disorders in the critical early years, before they start school. Cape Cod Children's Place offers families an opportunity to meet individually with our ASQ (Ages & Stages Questionnaire) Coordinator and complete the ASQ screening. Call us at 508-240-3310 to schedule an appointment.





Family Activities

Call 508-240-3310 or visit capecodchildrensplace.com for information about our grant-funded activities for children and families. The programs listed below and our family education and support programs listed on the next page are all provided at no cost to participating families.

Our schedule of family activities is lighter in the summer because most parents are busy with work. Look for our full schedule to resume in September.

Summer 2025 Calendar

Registration is required for the following programs; call CCCP at 508-240-3310.

We expect participants to attend every session they've registered for.

Mondays:

Playground Playtime, 9:30-10:30 am, 8/11-8/25, Sandy Pond Playground, Yarmouth, ages birth-6

Tuesdays:

Fun on the Farm, 9:30-10:30 am, 8/5; Taylor-Bray Farm, Yarmouth, ages 1-3 years old

Wednesdays:

Ready-Set-Go, 10:30-11:30 am; 7/9-8/6, Kennedy-Donovan Ctr, W. Yarmouth, ages 18 mos.– 5 yrs. old

Kids Movement Jamboree, 10:30-11:30 am, 7/30-8/13, Centerville Library, ages 2-6 years old

Thursdays:

The Campout, 7-8 pm, 8/7, Dennis Conservation Land Trust, ages 3-8 years old

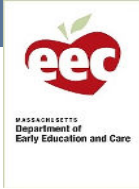
Fridays:

This Is Me! Making Our Self-Portraits, 10-11 am, 7/25, Cultural Center of Cape Cod, ages 3-6 yrs. old

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Other Events

Reading with Principals, Stay tuned for more details!



Family Education & Support

Cape Cod Children's Place provides Family Education and Support programs at no cost, and free family support consultations. Call 508-240-3310.

Website www.capecodchildrensplace.com; also on Facebook and Instagram.

For families with a child 18-30 months old, the Parentchild+ no-cost program is now opening enrollment to start in September 2025. PC+ provides free educational books and toys, home visits one hour/once a week on flexible schedules, and services from a trained early learning specialist in English, Spanish, and Portuguese languages.
Email info@capecodchildrensplace.com for further information.

Family Education, Workshops & Support

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Parenting Education Series

Raising Healthy Families, Tuesdays, 7/22-8/26, 6-7:30 pm
virtual, with Cindy Horgan

*

Support Groups

Dads in Recovery: join our peer support group, weekly,
Tuesdays at 6 pm, via Zoom. Register at
crussell@capecodchildrensplace.com or call 774-722-3305

Lower Cape Supporting Momma Group, Thursdays, weekly,
11 am-12pm, at Cape Cod Children's Place in Eastham,
with Becky Fischer CLC

Outer Cape WIC
Wednesdays July 9 and 23
August 13 and 27
Outer Cape WIC sees clients at Cape Cod Children's Place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, providing healthy food, breastfeeding support and nutrition information for pregnant and breastfeeding women, new moms and children under the age of 5. Call 508-240-0853 for appointments. More information at wic@outercape.org.

FIRST Steps Together

Families In Recovery Support

Office at 23G White's Path, Yarmouth

Contact **Christina Russell, LICSW**
Project Director 774-722-3305
crussell@capecodchildrensplace.com
for information about the following services or to make a referral:

Community-based home visiting program serving families impacted by substance use disorder who have young children (regardless of care and custody arrangements) or who are expecting a child

A team of staff with lived experience, covering all of Cape Cod.

Individualized parenting and recovery coaching

Live and virtual trauma-informed support groups and parenting classes

Support with the Department of Children and Families

Evidence-informed interventions to increase parental resilience, secure attachment, recovery support, developmental knowledge; and to form community connections
* * *

For more information on Massachusetts
FIRST Steps Together visit
<https://firststepstogetherma.org>



News You Can Use

Parents, Grandparents, Families: Call Cape Cod Children's Place 508-240-3310

with any questions: about your child's behavior, where to get financial help, and how to connect with a particular organization. We are here to help!

Support Local Families

All Moms Are Heroes was founded in honor of Shannon Hubbard and her one-year-old daughter, Maggie, who lived in Brewster. Shannon and Maggie died in a fire last October at a vacation rental with no smoke detectors in Clinton, N.Y. Shannon graduated from Nauset Regional High School and was a teacher at Chatham Elementary School. She was a devoted mother, passionate teacher, and fierce advocate for early childhood education. Inspired by her dedication, *All Moms are Heroes* helps families by providing financial assistance, advocating for families, and building a supportive community. In addition, local legislators are working to promote The Maggie Hubbard Rental Safety Act. Visit allmomsareheroes.com for information about this organization and an upcoming fundraiser on October 6 at Ocean Edge in Brewster.

A Baby Center

508-771-8157 or ababycenter.org. Providing basic baby needs to infants up to age five in income-eligible families living on Cape Cod and the Islands.

Early Intervention

508-418-5540 kdc.org/early-intervention. Developmental supports for ages birth-3.

Healthy Families

508-540-2968 healthimperatives.org Family support for first-time parents through age 26.

Cape Cod Foster Closet

508-514-7125 capecodfostercloset.org. Clothing and other items for local foster, adoptive and relative caregiver families, newborn to age 18.

Family Pantry of Cape Cod

508-432-6519 thefamilypantry.com Call or visit website for information and hours to get food and clothing at Family Pantry in Harwich. Call 508-240-3310 to get on the list for monthly food pick-ups at Cape Cod Children's Place.

Immigration Resources

MA Immigration & Refugee Advocacy Coalition: 617-350-5480. Reliable, up-to-date information on immigrants and refugees in Massachusetts and all the services and resources you may need.

<https://miracoalition.org/news/know-your-rights/>

Immigration Resource Center: 508 771-1727 located in MassHire Cape and Islands Career Ctr, 372 North St, Hyannis.

<https://www.cacci.cc/programs/immigration-resource-center/>

Housing Resources

Habitat for Humanity: 508-362-3559 habitatcapecod.org Habitat partners with families in need of an affordable home to build one of their own.

Housing Assistance: 508-771-5400 hac@haconcapecod.org Provides help with housing for Cape & Islands residents.

Homeless Prevention Council: 508-255-9667 or hpccapecod.org. Help for Lower/Outer Cape residents with housing and other needs.

Children's Trust

617-727-8957 childrenstrustma.org Working to prevent child abuse and neglect. Visit childrenstrustma.findhelp.com to connect with services in your area.

TUITION AID

Help in paying early childhood education & care fees is available to families from various sources, including:

Bailey Boyd subsidies: for families in certain towns. Applications at baileyboyd.com/childcare-programs-1.

Cape Cod Children's Place: Visit capecodchildrensplace.com or call 508-240-3310 for information and application forms for the Brewster Childcare Scholarship Program, the Wellfleet Childcare Subsidy Program, the Lower Cape Emergency Child Care Fund, and for information about other subsidy programs for early education and care fees.

Child Care Network: Contact cacci.cc. 888-540-2430 or 508-778-9470 for State-funded early childhood education & care vouchers.

WE CAN

508-430-8111 or wecancenter.org. Offices in Harwich Port and in Hyannis. Programs including workshops, legal services, mentoring and career support for women going through life transitions.

Helping Our Women

508-487-4357 helpingourwomen.org Offices at 34 Conwell St., Provincetown; and the Ann Maguire Women's Wellness Center, Main Street Mercantile, Eastham. Resource center for women living with chronic or serious health conditions on the Outer Cape.

Lower Cape Outreach Council

508-240-0694 lcoutreach.org Resources for Lower and Outer Cape residents, including: financial assistance, food pantries, Wellfleet Shellfish Harvester Relief Fund.



Summer Is Here!

Circus Smirkus

Tuesday, July 15 and Wednesday, July 16

Shows at 12 pm & 6 pm both days
at Monomoy Regional High School
100 Oak St., Harwich

The Circus is coming to town!

Presented by The Harwich Children's Fund

Contact Kathie Smith
alankathiesmith@gmail.com
for tickets and information.

CIRCUS SMIRKUS is a non-profit, award-winning, international youth circus that has been performing throughout New England since 1987. The stars of this 70-member touring company are youth ranging in age from 10-18 years old.

All profits from this July's two-day event will go to the Harwich Children's Fund

Discounted group rates are available for groups of 15+. Groups will have reserved pre-seating.



**Puppets, Paul and Mary are back at
Cape Rep Theatre, 3299 Main St, Brewster**

June 24, 2025 — August 26, 2025
Tuesdays at 10 am in the Outdoor Theater
If it rains we go indoors!

Seating is first come first served. Tickets \$12.

508 896-1888. Running Time: 60 min

Written and performed by Paul Kehoe and Mary Wilson with all their puppet friends in a brand new show filled with songs, silliness and summer fun.

Interactive, inventive and extremely funny.
Perfect for ages 2-6 & great fun for ages 7-100!

Some Outdoor Places to Visit

Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary: 508-349-2615 wellfleet@massaudubon.org

Cape Cod Museum of Natural History: Brewster; 508-896-3867 info@ccmnh.org

Green Briar Nature Center: East Sandwich; 508-888-6870 info@thorntonburgess.org

Taylor-Bray Farm: Yarmouth Port; 774-251-1869 taylorbrayfarm.org

Long Pasture Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary; Barnstable; 508-362-7475 massaudubon.org

Cape Cod National Seashore: 508-255-3421; nps.gov/caco/index.htm



This spring, we are remembering our beginnings at Cape Cod Children's Place and planning for our future. It has been fun to look back at old pictures and hear the stories of our beginning and early years! It has also been exciting and energizing as we go through our strategic planning process – charting our course for our next chapter. We will be sure to report back our findings this fall.

This new planning process started at the same place as it did 30(plus) years ago – listening and learning from our community – “nothing about us without us” as the saying goes. We consider this more than a saying and the best way for us to work with you. Once we know the hopes and dreams for your family, consider us your way finders on your path to greatness!

While Cape Cod Children's Place continues on its own journey, we are having to make some unplanned turns and re-calculations. This quarterly newsletter is the last that will be edited and produced by Elizabeth Aldred. Elizabeth was the driving force for the creation of this agency. She started the listening sessions, focus groups and surveys. She wrote the grants and has advocated for the best for children and families – particularly on the lower and outer Cape. She has been our past and our present (truly a gift), and it will be hard to move forward without her wisdom, expertise, fierce sense of justice, and wit. Elizabeth will continue to act as a member of our Advisory Committee for which we are grateful!

We hope you will continue to follow us and join our community where we help you and your family grow strong, so our whole community can thrive!

Erin Sullivan

Executive Director

Join Our Celebration!

We invite you to join us this year in celebrating our 30th anniversary! Mark your calendars! We're celebrating **30 incredible years** with a special fundraiser this September. Don't miss out on updates – find everything you need to know here: <https://capecodchildrensplace.com/30years/>

You can also keep updated with our social media @capecodchildrensplace.

Our newsletter is available in English, Portuguese and Spanish on our website. Contact us or sign up on the website to receive email or print version.

Cape Cod Children's Place, P.O. Box 1935, N. Eastham, MA 02651
www.capecodchildrensplace.com; info@capecodchildrensplace.com

Tel: 508-240-3310; Fax: 508-240-2352; find us on FaceBook and Instagram

We welcome your donations at www.capecodchildrensplace.com/donate Thank you!



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 800.871.9535 toll free
 508.240.2352 fax
info@capecodchildrensplace.com
www.capecodchildrensplace.com
 Check out this newsletter "in color"
 on-line at our website.



HELPFUL FAMILY CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Our Family Resource Guides are available online at www.capecodchildrensplace.com in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Call Cape Cod Children's Place at 508-240-3310 to request a printed copy.



A Baby Center	508.771.8157	Basic items for infants and toddlers up to age three living on Cape Cod and Islands
Al-anon /Alateen	508.394.4555	Offering support for friends, families and teens with problem drinkers in their lives
Cape Cod Family Resource Center	508-815-5100	Support for all families: groups, activities, classes, events.
Cape & Island Breast Feeding Warm Line	888.890.2229	Lactation services and classes are available to local Cape and Islands mothers
Child Support Enforcement-Mass DOR	508.771.2414 x 3	Assistance in enforcing the financial responsibilities of parenthood
Consumer Credit Counseling	800.208.2227	Budgeting and debt consolidation assistance
Dept. of Transitional Assistance	508.862.6600	Services and resources for low-income families and individuals.
Early Intervention	508-418-5540	Family-centered support for children with developmental delays.
Fuel Assistance Program	508.746.6707	Emergency fuel/heating help
Healthy Connections	508.255-1903	Referrals for free/low cost health insurance
Homeless Prevention Council	508.255.9667	Counseling, advocacy, resources and referral services
Independence House	508.771.6507	Cape Cod's Resource Center for Victims & Survivors of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault.
Legal Services for Cape Cod & Islands	510-775-7020	Non-profit legal aid
Lower Cape Outreach Council	508.240.0694	Providing short-term emergency assistance to Lower Cape families and individuals
Mass APEAL	508.349.1173	Free clothing as well as information on Serve New England Program
Monomoy Family Resource Center	508.430.7216	Ext. 4044: Information, support, diapers, clothing, food for Chatham and Harwich families.
Outer Cape Health Services:	800-667-5356	Providing high quality primary healthcare in the 8 Lower/Outer Cape towns.
Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) Program	800-942-1007	Healthy food options, community referrals, nutrition education and breastfeeding support.
Parental Stress Line	800.632.8188	A free, confidential, and anonymous 24-hour parent helpline for parental support
Provincetown Family Resource Center	800.871.9535	Providing support, referrals, and financial aid through the John A. Henry Trust.
SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance	877-382-2363	Applications and assistance with food stamp program.
WE CAN	508.430.8111	Assisting Cape Cod women through divorce, career change /growth, job loss, illness, retirement