



# cape cod children's place FAMILY NEWSLETTER

*for families and caregivers of children*

## Join Our Celebration

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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 [capecod-childrensplace.com](http://capecod-childrensplace.com) to learn more and

find out some of the ways we are celebrating this milestone under the "30<sup>th</sup> 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.

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*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](mailto: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](http://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

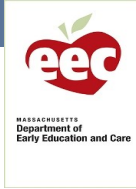
### **Fridays:**

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://wic@outercape.org).

### FIRST Steps Together

#### Families In Recovery Support

Office at 23G White's Path, Yarmouth

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Contact **Christina Russell, LICSW**

Project Director 774-722-3305

[crussell@capecodchildrensplace.com](mailto:crussell@capecodchildrensplace.com)  
for information about the following  
services or to make a referral:

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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](http://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](http://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](http://kdc.org/early-intervention). Developmental supports for ages birth-3.

### Healthy Families

508-540-2968 [healthimperatives.org](http://healthimperatives.org). Family support for first-time parents through age 26.

### Cape Cod Foster Closet

508-514-7125 [capecodfostercloset.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:hac@haconcapecod.org). Provides help with housing for Cape & Islands residents.

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

### Children's Trust

617-727-8957 [childrenstrustma.org](http://childrenstrustma.org). Working to prevent child abuse and neglect. Visit [childrenstrustma.findhelp.com](http://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](http://baileyboyd.com/childcare-programs-1).

**Cape Cod Children's Place:** Visit [capecodchildrensplace.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:wellfleet@massaudubon.org)

**Cape Cod Museum of Natural History:** Brewster; 508-896-3867 [info@ccmnh.org](mailto:info@ccmnh.org)

**Green Briar Nature Center:** East Sandwich; 508-888-6870 [info@thorntonburgess.org](mailto:info@thorntonburgess.org)

**Taylor-Bray Farm:** Yarmouth Port; 774-251-1869 [taylorbrayfarm.org](http://taylorbrayfarm.org)

**Long Pasture Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary;** Barnstable; 508-362-7475 [massaudubon.org](http://massaudubon.org)

**Cape Cod National Seashore:** 508-255-3421; [nps.gov/caco/index.htm](http://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](http://www.capecodchildrensplace.com); [info@capecodchildrensplace.com](mailto: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](http://www.capecodchildrensplace.com/donate) Thank you!*



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[www.capecodchildrensplace.com](http://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](http://www.capecodchildrensplace.com) in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Call Cape Cod Children's Place at 508-240-3310 to request a printed copy.*



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