





## Parenting Today! Workshops and Support Programs

Call the Medford Family Network at (781) 393-2106  
Child care and transportation options available upon request.



### Fun and Friendship for New Moms & Dads

*Facilitated by Aine O'Malley, Jf&CS Parent Leader*

Every Tuesday  
12:30—2:00 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

For ages birth to 12 months.

Are you a new parent?

Welcome to a great supportive network and opportunity to meet new friends for yourself, playmates for your child and learn about resources for you in the community.

Drop-in format.

### Part II Financial Literacy for ESOL Students

*Facilitated by Lona Battles, Manager,  
Members Plus Credit Union*

Tuesday, April 25  
4:00—5:00 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

PowerPoint presentation:

- ◆ Reasons for banking and smart spending.
- ◆ Importance of saving and managing money.

Other banking questions are welcome.

Registration is required for first-time students.

Call (781) 393-2106.

### Learn About Foster Parenting and Adopting from Foster Care

*Hosted by Mass Department of Children & Families*

Thursday, April 27  
6:30—8:30 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

Consider doing something that will matter forever.

- ◆ You can be single, married, partnered, divorced or widowed.
  - ◆ You can rent or own a home.
- ◆ Time spent with you in a stable and secure environment gives a child a chance to heal.
- ◆ The rewards of providing daily care, guidance and acceptance to a child are immeasurable.

Registration is required. Call (781) 393-2106.

### 6th Annual Parent Café with Dinner & Child Care

*Presented by the MFN Parent Advisory Board  
Facilitated by Debbie Weinstock-Savoy, PhD*

Wednesday, May 3  
6:30—8:30 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

Topic:

*Caring..for Others and Yourself*

Parent Café provides a unique opportunity for parents to hold conversations about meaningful topics that lead to safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments.

Registration is required. Call (781) 393-2106.

### Raising A Happy Child

*Facilitated by Jeanine Fitzgerald, Certified Human  
Behavior Consultant Specialist*



Tuesday, May 30  
6:30—8:30 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

Happiness is a gift we give ourselves and our children. Together, we will introduce the pursuit of happiness for our children by: defining it, examining attributes that lead to it, and applying ways to achieve it.

Registration is required. Call (781) 393-2106

### Follow-up Workshop to Raising A Happy Child

*Facilitated by Marie Levey-Pabst,  
Parent Educator, Founder of Create Balance*

Wednesday, June 7  
7:00—8:30 pm

**Location:** MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

For parents who attended the Raising A Happy Child workshop. Come share and discuss ways to make these strategies part of our regular parenting choices.

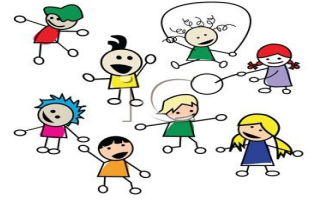
Registration is required. Call (781) 393-2106.

# TRAVELING PLAYGROUPS IN THE PARK

FACILITATED BY "MISS ANDREA" BREEN, PLAYGROUP LEADER

May/June 2017

9:30—11:30 am



## Mondays

May 1 (Victory)  
May 8 (Carr)  
May 15 (Barry)  
May 22 (Playstead)  
June 5 (Dugger)  
June 12 (Magoun)  
June 19 (Tufts)  
June 26 (Dugger)

## Tuesdays

May 2 (Barry)  
May 9 (Logan)  
May 16 (Harris)  
May 23 (Carr)  
May 30 (Cummings)  
June 6 (McNally)  
June 13 (Dugger)  
June 20 (Capen)  
June 27 (Magoun)

## Wednesdays

May 3 (Playstead)  
May 10 (Dugger)  
May 17 (Victory)  
May 24 (Tufts)  
May 31 (Logan)  
June 7 (Cummings)  
June 14 (Carr)  
May 21 (Barry)  
June 28 (Capen)

## Thursdays

May 4 (Cummings)  
May 11 (Logan)  
May 18 (Magoun)  
May 25 (Barry)  
June 1 (McNally)  
June 8 (Capen)  
June 15 (McNally)  
June 22 (Cummings)  
June 29 (Harris)



*Art Activities*

*Balls*

*Bubbles*

*Parachute Play*

*Storytelling*

*Music & Movement Activities*

*Summer Fun Activity and Community Resource Information*

Playgroups are FREE for families who live/work in Medford.

Register at the park each day you attend.

If it is NOT pouring, we are playing!

If it IS raining, call the MFN at (781) 393-2106 to find out if we will be at the park!

Pack a snack and beverage, and bring sunscreen!

We will have a First Aid kit for emergencies!

Please call the MFN regarding transportation options and/or directions.

Call (617) 222-3200 or visit [www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com) for bus information!

**storytime**

## Circle Time Story Time

Facilitated by "Miss Andrea," MFN Play & Learn Group Leader

8 Fridays;

May 5, 12, 19, 26; June 2, 16, 23, 30

Location: Medford Public Library, 111 High Street, Medford

For ages birth to 2

9:30—10:30 am

For ages 2 to 5 years

11:00 am—12:00 pm

Storytelling

Sing-A-Long

Arts & Crafts Activity

Music & Movement

Siblings are welcome.

Registration is requested for each one you would like to attend but not required.

Call the MFN at (781) 393-2106.





# Special MFN Programming!

Please call (781) 393-2106 to register.

## Family Fun Night with Families, Friends and Knucklebones...

(For up to age 8)

Facilitated by *Bernadette Kennedy and Cindy Sabbag*

**Friday, April 7**

**5:00—8:00 pm**

Location: Medford High School, 489 Winthrop Street,  
Cages 1 & 2

### *Family Fun Activities...*

Hula Hoops! Parachute Play! Balance Beam!  
Music and Movement! Scooter Balls!  
Kid-Friendly Up and Down Roller Coaster!  
Spinning Bilibos! Soft Sculpture Gym Equipment and  
Building Blocks! Vertical Ball Maze!

Registration Required. Call (781) 393-2106

## Drop-in Playtime at the MFN Family Center!

Respect our Family Center for  
Yourself and Others!

Clean up..Clean up...

while you are here and before you leave!

### April 2017

Mondays	9:00 am to 11:00 am <u>AND</u> 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Tuesdays	No Drop-ins ( <i>except 4/18</i> )
Wednesdays	3:00 pm to 5:00 pm ( <i>except 4/19</i> )
Thursdays	No Drop-ins ( <i>except 4/20</i> )
Fridays	2:30 pm to 5:00 pm ( <i>except 4/21</i> )
<b>Friday NIGHT</b>	<b>5:00 pm to 7:00 pm (4/28 only)</b>
Saturdays	9:00 am to 12:00 pm

National Association for the Education of Young  
Children (NAEYC) announces the  
Week of the Young Child—  
April 23-28, 2017

### MFN's KICKOFF EVENT

## S.T.E.M. Around Medford Play and Learn Group

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Facilitated by *Linda Selinger,*  
*MFN Play and Learn Group Leader*

**Monday, April 24**

**4:00—5:30 pm**

Location: MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

All Ages Welcome

### *The Magic of Magnets*

Explore stations set up throughout the Family  
Center that encourage children to learn about  
magnetism through hands-on activities.

Registration requested but not required.

Call (781) 393-2106.



### April Vacation 2017

Monday, April 17	Closed
Tuesday, April 18	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Wednesday, April 19	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Thursday, April 20	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Friday, April 21	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, April 22	9:00 am to 12:00 pm

### May 2017

Mondays	9:00 am to 11:00 am <u>AND</u> 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm ( <i>5/1, 5/8, 5/15</i> ) 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ( <i>5/22 only</i> ) ( <i>Closed May 29</i> )
Tuesdays	9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Wednesdays	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Thursdays	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Fridays	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturdays	9:00 am to 12:00 pm ( <i>5/6, 5/13, 5/20</i> )

### June 2017

Mondays	9:00 am to 5:00 pm ( <i>6/5, 6/12</i> )
Tuesdays	9:00 am to 12:00 pm ( <i>6/6, 6/13</i> )
Wednesdays	9:00 am to 5:00 pm ( <i>6/7, 6/14</i> )
Thursdays	9:00 am to 3:00 pm ( <i>6/1, 6/8</i> ) 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ( <i>6/15</i> )
Fridays	9:00 am to 5:00 pm ( <i>6/2, 6/9, 6/16</i> )



A Special Invitation to Join Us for a...

## Legislative Breakfast



Friday, May 12  
9:00—10:00 am

Location: MFN Family Center, 489 Winthrop Street

### Invited Legislators:

Senator Patricia D. Jehlen  
State Representative Christine P. Barber  
State Representative Paul J. Donato  
State Representative Sean Garballey

### Agenda

9:00 am—Welcome and Introductions  
9:15 am—Continental Breakfast  
9:45 am—Presentations by Parent Leaders,  
Grandparents, Medford Housing Staff, ESOL Students

**If you plan to attend, please call the MFN to register!**  
**(781) 393-2106**

## Building Bridges to Kindergarten

- ◆ Informational meetings for Parents and Families of Incoming Kindergarten Students
  - ◆ Program Overview and Highlights
  - ◆ Q&A Opportunity

*Facilitated by Shelley Gross, Early Childhood/  
Afterschool Director and Maria Micieli,  
Kindergarten Teacher, Brooks School*

## Two Meetings:

Wednesday, April 12  
7:00—8:00 pm

Location: MHS Library, 489 Winthrop Street

This meeting is preceded and followed by an  
Open House at MFN Family Center,  
6:30—7:00 pm AND 8—8:30 pm

Please call (781) 393-2102 by Friday, April 7 for  
child care/interpreter(s).

Thursday, May 4  
7:00—8:00 pm

Location: Columbus School, 37 Hicks Avenue  
Please call (781) 393-2102 by Friday, May 1 for  
interpreter(s).

## Ages & Stages Questionnaire

This questionnaire allows parents to monitor their child's growth and development - cognitively, physically, emotionally, and socially. Be an active participant in your child's development. Working together, we can provide resources to ensure your child has every opportunity for optimal growth and development.

## Parent Leadership Opportunities

### Medford Family Network (MFN)

#### Advisory Board

We are seeking new Board and Committee members who are welcome to join at any time.

Committees are...

#### Parent Ambassador Committee

Build on the Parent Ambassador Program by recruiting, enrolling and training MFN parents, present and past, to ensure an MFN presence at citywide events.

#### Marketing Committee

Focus on communication, including brochures, press, newsletters and social media to ensure that MFN information is available in a variety of formats to families.

#### Program Committee

Advise on program development and implementation; assist in the planning and promotion of the Early Education & Care Fair as well as specialized programming such as Parent Café, Peer Review, Financial Literacy and Family Literacy.

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 6:15 to 8:15 pm at the MFN Family Center (includes dinner, child care and transportation options).

*For more information, please contact Marie Cassidy,  
Family Support Coordinator, at (781) 393-2106 or  
mcassidy@medford.k12.ma.us.*



### Friends of the Medford Family Network (FMFN)

#### Board

The FMFN is a nonprofit organization that directly supports the MFN by securing donations for programming and family events (e.g., Teddy Bear Picnic, Playgroups in the Park, Family Concerts).

*For more information, please contact Johanna Lynch,  
President, at info@medfordfamilies.org.*



### Medford Family Resource Coalition (MFRC)

#### Council

The MFRC Council is an early childhood advisory body. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 16 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm at the MFN Family Center.

*For more information, please contact Shelley Gross,  
Director of Early Childhood/Afterschool at  
(781) 393-2102 or sgross@medford.k12.ma.us.*

### **What is the Medford Family Network (MFN)?**

The Medford Family Network of the Medford Public Schools is a FREE universal (everyone welcome) parenting education and family support program focusing on the positive impact on the developmental process of children prenatal to age 8, and supporting the families that care for them. All adults who live or work in Medford caring for young children are welcome! This is accomplished through parenting education workshops; age-specific play and learn groups; new moms groups; home visitation; family events; a lending library; a family resource/drop-in center; information and referral services; family literacy activities; financial literacy information; and individual consultation. There are programs for dads, grandparents, single parents, parents who speak languages other than English; working parents; at-home parents; and more. Programs are held at a variety of sites around the city – weekdays, evenings and weekends. Many activities are co-sponsored with other family-serving agencies. Parent advisory and leadership roles are available and encouraged.

### **Information & Referral Services**

If you have questions or concerns about your child(ren), family, or want to know about community resources, you can always call on the Medford Family Network. Our role is to listen and help you find the information you need. Stop by the MFN Family Center at the Medford High School or call us at (781) 393-2106. We can make appointments to meet with you at the Center, in another location, or just take time to talk on the phone. ***Please let us know what is important for the healthy growth and development of you and your family. We are here to make a difference.***

### **We are funded in part by:**

#### **Department of Early Education and Care Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant**

Grant priorities are to: reach and meet the needs of children, especially those with multiple risk factors and/or are hard to reach; ensure families have access to comprehensive services; provide evidence-based early literacy and family literacy opportunities; and provide families with support for continuity through early childhood transitions.

#### **Children's Trust Massachusetts Family Center Grant**

The Children's Trust helps parents navigate the joys and challenges of raising children. The grant priorities are based on the five protective factors that are the foundation of the Strengthening Families Approach: parental resilience; social connections; concrete supports in times of need; knowledge of parenting and child development; social and emotional competence of children. The MFN incorporates the Protective Factors into its programming through a variety of methods and activities.

# A FRIEND TO KNOW...A PLACE TO GROW!



MEDFORD FAMILY NETWORK  
MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL  
489 WINTHROP STREET  
MEDFORD, MA 02155



Medford Family Network is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant, the Children's Trust, the Friends of the Medford Family Network, Corp., and the generous donations from our families and friends.