

## Parent Education & Support Opportunities August 2010

Kids don't come with instruction manuals. But whether you're a new mom or dad, a seasoned veteran, or a non-traditional parent/caregiver, there are tips and techniques you can use to make parenting easier for yourself, and living with children better for everyone in your household.

Compiled and distributed by the Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition [www.capecoalition.com](http://www.capecoalition.com).

**To receive this list every month by e-mail, please contact  
e-mail Paul Melville at [paul@capecoalition.com](mailto:paul@capecoalition.com).**

**All meetings, workshops etc. are free of charge unless otherwise noted.**

August 2 (first Monday), 6 - 7:30 p.m.: **"Dads' Talk ~ Harwich"** at the *Harwich Community Center*, 100 Oak St., with Paul Melville, family support specialist. A monthly opportunity to get together with local fathers and other male caregivers. Special guest speaker this month: Donald N.S. Unger is the author of *Men Can: The Changing Image and Reality of Fatherhood in America*. His presentation is titled, "Men and Media: Is the Doofus Dad Dead?", but there will be plenty of opportunity to talk about any parenting topic you'd like to bring. All Dads are welcome to this non-therapeutic gathering, regardless of their child(ren)'s age(s), their parenting situation, and where they live. Free pizza and child care. Sponsored by the Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition with additional support from Cape Cod Children's Place and Harwich CPC. Information or registration: 508-771-4338 or [paul@capecoalition.com](mailto:paul@capecoalition.com).

August 3, 17 and 31 (every other Tuesday), 10 a.m. - noon: **"New Babies' Breastfeeding Support Group"** at *Falmouth Hospital* (Family Room, Maternity Unit), 100 Ter Heun Dr. (off Route 28), with Suzan Schar, RNC and board certified lactation consultant. Siblings welcome. Information: 508-457-3632.

August 4 (first Wednesday), 6 - 8 p.m.: **"Parents of Transitional Age Youth (PTAY) Support Group"** in *Hyannis* with Tresa Salters, PTAY Coordinator for the Parent Information Network (PIN). This monthly group is for Cape area parents of transitional age youth (ages 14 - 25). In addition to parent support, we will be brainstorming ideas for trainings and guest speakers for PTAY on the Cape, please join us. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health. Information or registration: Tresa Salters: [ptaypin@bamsi.org](mailto:ptaypin@bamsi.org) or 508-947-8779 ext. 22.

August 4 (first Wednesday), 6:30 - 8 p.m.: **“Parents of Diabetic Children”** at *Sandwich Public Library*, 142 Main St. (Room 2), with Sandy Bovat. Non-therapeutic parent-led support group. Open discussion format. Join us for information sharing and support. No registration necessary. Information: Sandy at 508-477-8542 or Susan Hendy at 508-888-7054.

August 5, 6 and 20, 9 – 11:30 a.m.: **“Free Family Law Legal Clinics for Women”** at We Can, 537 Main St. (Route 28), Suite 2H, *Harwich Port*. Individual, half-hour appointments with an attorney are available by registration only. This is an opportunity for low and moderate income women to ask questions, get answers, navigate their documents, and find out what their rights are. Funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Bar Foundation. Information or registration: 508-430-8111 or kara@wecancenter.org.

August 5 and 12 (must attend both sessions), 5:30 - 8 p.m.: **“Set a Good Example (SAGE)”** at MSPCC, 206 Breeds Hill Road, *Hyannis*, with Jennifer Taylor, LMHC and Matt Daniels, LMHC. Divorce has a profound impact on children; come learn how you can lessen the impact for your kids. Meets the court’s mandate for education for parents filing for divorce. FEE: \$80. Information or registration: 508-775-0275.

August 6 and 20 (every other Friday), 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.: **“Nursing Mothers Support Group”** at the *Falmouth Fire Station* (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), 399 Main St. Non-WIC mothers, fathers, and pregnant women also welcome. Sponsored by Cape Cod WIC. No registration necessary. Information: Kathy at 508-548-0814.

August 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: **“Helping Children Cope With Grief (for 7th and 8th graders)”** at Coonamessett Farm, 277 Hatchville Road, *East Falmouth* with Elaine Moraglia, MSW, LICSW and Aimee Rozum, LMHC, ATR-BC of Hospice & Palliative Care of Cape Cod. Participants will meet peers who are also experiencing the death of a loved one, and participate in activities which focus on remembering and celebrating that person with support from a professionally trained staff. Registration for this free workshop is limited. Funding provided by the United Way. Information or registration: 508-957-0248 or 508-957-0267.

Beginning August 7 for eight Tuesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.: **“General Parenting Program”** at The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC), 206 Breeds Hill Road, *Hyannis*, with Jennifer Taylor, LMHC. For parents of children through age 13. Topics include: developmental patterns, common behavioral challenges, and successful behavior management techniques. FEE: \$50; free for DCF clients with JRI referral. Free child care available. Funded in part by the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families. Information or registration: Kirsten Abrahamson at 508-775-0275.

Beginning August 7 for eight Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m.: **“Parenting Your Adolescent”** at The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC), 206 Breeds Hill Road, *Hyannis*, with Jennifer Taylor, LMHC. For parents of adolescents ages 13-19. Topics include: developmental patterns, common behavioral challenges, and successful behavior management techniques. FEE: \$50; free for DCF clients with JRI referral. Free child care available. Funded in part by the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families. Information or registration: Kirsten Abrahamson at 508-775-0275.

August 9 (second Monday), 7 - 8:30 p.m.: **“Cape Cod Mothers of Multiples (C2M2)”** at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Cape and Islands (RHCI), 311 Service Road, *East Sandwich*. A support group for parents of twins, triplets etc. Information: Stephany Alves at 508-246-5091 or [stephany2@comcast.net](mailto:stephany2@comcast.net).

August 9 and 23, 7 - 8:30 p.m.: **“Parents of Prisoners (PoP)”** at Cape Cod Church, 805 Teaticket Highway (Route 28), *East Falmouth*. If you are the parent of a prisoner (past or present) looking for support and understanding from fellow parents, please join us for our bi-weekly faith-based meetings. First time participants, please call ahead to register. Information or registration: Sophia at 508-944-2694 or [parentsofprisoners@yahoo.com](mailto:parentsofprisoners@yahoo.com).

August 11 (second Wednesday), 5:15 - 6:45 p.m.: **“Single Parenting”** at Cape Cod Child Development, 83 Pearl St., *Hyannis*, with Paul Melville, family support specialist. This monthly group is designed to create a safe, supportive environment for single moms and dads to share successes, challenges, and other information. All single parents are welcome to attend this non-therapeutic gathering, regardless of their child(ren)’s age(s) and their parenting situation. Free dinner and child care. Sponsored by Cape Cod Child Development’s Families United Network (F.U.N.) Program and the Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition. Information or registration: Mary at 508-775-6240 ext. 512.

August 12 (second Thursday), 7 - 8:30 p.m.: **“All Families Touched by Adoption (AFTA), Waiting Parents Group”** at the Family Center (Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School), Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, *Oak Bluffs*, with Marney Toole, family services coordinator at the Martha’s Vineyard Family Network. The group mission is to enrich the lives of children, families and all those touched by or considering adoption. We hope to provide, education, support, communication and resources to all. Information or registration: Marney Toole at 508-693-7900 ext. 283.

August 12 (second Thursday), 7 - 9:30 p.m.: **“Breastfeeding Class”** at *Falmouth Hospital* (Faxon One Conference Room), 100 Ter Heun Dr. (off Route 28). This one session course prepares moms-to-be for breastfeeding. It covers the advantages of breastfeeding, the anatomy and physiology of lactation, dispels myths surrounding breastfeeding, and will prepare you to get the best possible start. FEE: \$5 per couple. Information or registration: 508-457-3632.

August 13 and 27 (every other Friday), 10 a.m. - noon: “**Nursing Mothers Support Group**” at the *Hyannis WIC office*, 1019 Iyannough Road. Non-WIC mothers, fathers, and pregnant women also welcome. Sponsored by Cape Cod WIC. No registration necessary. Information: Cheryl at 508-540-5275.

August 16 and 17 (must attend both sessions), 6 - 8:30 p.m.: “**Parents Apart**” at VFW Post 2578 (Flight View Room), 455 Iyannough Road, *Hyannis*, with James Caramello, MA, LICSW and Lisa Margarit, LMHC of Massachusetts Bay Counseling. Divorce has a profound impact on children; come learn how you can lessen the impact for your kids. Meets the court’s mandate for education for parents filing for divorce. FEE: \$80. Information or registration: Amy Crissinger at 617-786-3027.

August 17, 5:30 - 7 p.m.: “**Workshop for Children with a Family Member with a Serious Illness**” at Hospice and Palliative Care of Cape Cod, 359 Main St. (Route 28), Falmouth, with Aimee Rozum LMHC, ATR-BC. Dinner provided. Information or registration: Aimee at 508-957-0267.

August 17 (third Tuesday), 7 - 9 p.m.: “**NAMI-Family Member Support Group**” at the Federated Church, 320 Main St., *Hyannis*. This new non-therapeutic group is open to anyone who has a family member with a mental illness. Connect with others in your situation, share challenges as well as successes, and learn about the resources available to you and your family. Refreshments provided. Sponsored by the Cape Cod Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Information: Bobbi Field 508-957-2338.

August 18, 10 a.m. - Noon: “**Career Training Program-Info Session**” at Cape Cod Community College's ACCESS Center, 540 Main St., *Hyannis*. This FREE program provides: Pre-employment training, Career and Job Coaching, and Internship Opportunities to unemployed parents receiving TAFDC cash benefits from DTA. Space is limited, so you must register. Funded by a grant from Massachusetts Community Colleges and the Department of Transitional Assistance. Information and registration: 508-375-5007.

August 19, 10 - 11 a.m.: “**Breastfeeding Support Group**” at the Outer Cape WIC office, 79 Finlay Road, *Orleans*, with Gabrielle Hathaway, lactation consultant. All moms-to-be and mothers of nursing infants welcome. This month, Gabrielle is teaching “Happiest Baby on the Block”, but you can still get your breastfeeding questions answered and learn the latest information in a confidential and sympathetic group environment. Snacks provided. Sponsored by Outer Cape WIC. Information: 508-240-0853.

August 19 (third Thursday), 7 - 9:30 p.m.: “**Newborn Care**” at *Falmouth Hospital* (Faxon One Conference Room), 100 Ter Heun Dr. (off Route 28). This class covers infant daily care, feeding and sleep habits, infant growth, development, and safety. We’ll also cover the identification of illnesses and when to call your pediatrician. FEE: \$5 per couple. Information or registration: 508-457-3632.

August 21 (third Saturday), 5:30 - 7 p.m.: **“Waiting Family Meetings”** at Good Hope Adoption Services, 708 Route 134, *South Dennis*. For singles and couples beginning adoption, waiting, or recently home with their child. Free pizza and coffee. Information or registration: Cape Cod Adoption Network at 508-385-7815.

### **Weekly Programs and Groups:**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - noon: **“Nursing Mothers’ Group”** at the Center for Breastfeeding, 327 Quaker Meeting House Road, *East Sandwich*. Information or registration: 888-890-2229 or 508-888-7794.

Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.: **“Postpartum Depression Support Group”** for new mothers at Hospice & Palliative Care of Cape Cod, 765 Attucks Lane, *Hyannis*, with Aimee Rozum LMHC ATR-BC. There is a FEE associated with this group, but most insurance is accepted and no one is turned away due to inability to pay. Information or registration: Aimee at 508-957-0267.

Tuesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.: **“Anger Management Classes”** at the Gosnold-Thorne Outpatient Counseling Center, 1185 Falmouth Road, *Centerville*, with Rick Martin, drug court treatment coordinator at Gosnold. Fulfills court requirements for anger management classes. FEE: \$20 per class, pay as you go. For information or registration: Rick Martin at 774-313-0503 or [rmartin@gosnold.org](mailto:rmartin@gosnold.org).

Fridays, 10 a.m. - Noon: **“Moms & Babies Support Group”** at Cape Cod Hospital (Whitcomb Pavilion), 27 Park St., *Hyannis*, with Ann Macdonald, RN, BSN, CCE. A great place to connect with other Cape Cod moms. Information or registration: Ann at 508-862-5123.

### **Select Ongoing Resources:**

**“Adoption Network Programs”** sponsored by the Cape Cod Adoption Network are held at various locations across the Cape. Playgroups and programs for adoptive parents, foster parents, or adoptive parents-to-be. Information: 508-385-7815 or visit [www.capecodadoptionnetwork.org](http://www.capecodadoptionnetwork.org) for a program listing and to request a resource guide.

**“Breastfeeding Warmline”** sponsored by the Center for Breastfeeding, *East Sandwich*. All calls are free and confidential. Call anytime, day or night; all messages received after-hours will be returned at the start of the next business day: 888-890-2229 or 508-888-7794.

**“Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Hotline”**: Independence House staffs this hotline 24 hours a day, every day of the year. You do not have to leave your relationship in order to get help and you are not required to press charges against your abuser. They will not notify the police unless you request it. Independence House can help arrange for emergency safe shelter for you and your family, as well as police intervention and medical care: 800-439-6507.

## **Select Ongoing Resources continued:**

**“Fit to be Kids”** at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Cape and Islands (RHCI), 311 Service Road, *East Sandwich*. An outpatient weight management program for children Ages 6 - 16. Information or registration (including fee schedule): Deb Merigan at 508-833-4197.

**“FoodSource Hotline of Project Bread”**: If you or someone you know is having difficulty making ends meet for whatever reason, Project Bread’s FoodSource Hotline can help. Hotline operators can provide information and screen callers for food stamp eligibility, connect callers to school meal programs, and direct callers to the best local, emergency food resources. All calls are personalized and confidential; with capacity for 160 languages. Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: 800-645-8333.

**“Kids Grieve Too!”**: Children who experience the loss of someone they love often feel like the world is falling apart and that no one else knows how they feel. The Kids Grieve Too! program at Hospice & Palliative Care of Cape Cod uses a combination of sharing, expressive arts and play therapy to assist children in expressing their feelings. Their licensed therapists specialize in supporting children through loss and grief. Information: 508-957-0200 or [www.hospicecapecod.org](http://www.hospicecapecod.org).

**“Lactation Connection”**: Breastfeeding mothers on Nantucket can reach a certified lactation consultant who will answer questions and arrange to meet with you for free: 774-563-1970.

**“Operation Military Kids (OMK)”**: Families experiencing the absence of a loved one due to a deployment overseas can learn what opportunities are available to them and their child(ren). Free after school and family programs are available through a grant from the Army Child and Youth Services, and hero backpacks are available to school-aged children. Information: Kerry J. Bickford at 508-375-6695 or [kbickford@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:kbickford@barnstablecounty.org).

**“Parent Information Network (PIN)”**: assists families who are challenged by children’s mental health, emotional, or behavioral needs. They offer a quarterly newsletter, individual advocacy, parent/community education, and two monthly support groups (*Brewster* and *Falmouth*). Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health. Information or registration: 508-947-8779 ext. 10.

**“Parental Stress Line”**: You don’t have to keep going it alone, Parents Helping Parents can help. The “Parental Stress Line” is confidential, anonymous, and available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week across Massachusetts: 800-632-8188.

**Select Ongoing Resources continued:**

**“The Samaritans on Cape Cod and the Islands”:** Dedicated volunteers answer this crisis hotline and listen compassionately to anyone who needs to be heard or who needs to hear a consoling human voice. Some of their callers are suicidal and some simply need a non-judgmental friend to validate their feelings and listen to their concerns and fears. All calls are confidential and anonymous: 800-893-9900.

The Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition (CCNSC) compiles and distributes this monthly list for the benefit of Cape and Islands families. We include workshops, classes, support groups, and other resources that we believe adhere to best practices; however, we suggest that you consider the appropriateness of program content for your family's needs and values.

This list is neither exhaustive nor an endorsement of any program or provider.

To receive this list every month, please e-mail: [paul@capecoalition.com](mailto:paul@capecoalition.com).