



CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

HISTORY & OVERVIEW

Child & Family Services has been serving the community since 1843. We are a comprehensive agency offering a wide range of counseling and community support services. These include specialty clinics, individual, group and family therapy, psychological testing, psychiatric consultation, adoption services and community youth support.

Child & Family Services' commitment is to serve the community with the highest respect and professionalism.

Adoption Journeys is committed to providing culturally and linguistically adoption-competent services to families and children.



ACCREDITED

COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION
OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES
AND CHILDREN, INC.

CONTACT YOUR CLOSEST ADOPTION JOURNEYS LOCATION

SOUTHEAST REGION

160 Osborn Street
Fall River, MA 02721
Tel: (508) 676-5708
Fax: (508) 676-0866

BOSTON & METRO SOUTH REGION

395 Totten Pond Road, Ste 204
Waltham, MA 02451
Tel: (781) 444-1042
Fax: (781) 444-1072

NORTHEAST & METRO REGION

439 South Union Street, #203b
Lawrence, MA 01843
Tel: (978) 687-5852
Fax: (978) 687-5857

CENTRAL REGION

330 Southwest Cutoff, Ste 101
Worcester, MA 01604
Tel: (508) 459-2339
Fax: (508) 459-9260

WEST REGION

140 Pine Street, Unit 12
MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 60006
Florence, MA 01062
Tel: (413) 320-4680
Fax: (413) 320-4688



CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

ADOPTION JOURNEYS



POST-ADOPTION SUPPORT SERVICES IN MASSACHUSETTS

1 (800) 97-CARE-4
1 (800) 972-2734

Child & Family Services' mission is
"...to heal and strengthen the lives
of children and families."

WWW.CHILD-FAMILYSERVICES.ORG

ADOPTION JOURNEYS

Adoption Journeys provides post-adoption services to families throughout Massachusetts. This program is the result of collaboration between the public and private sector, adoptive families and child welfare agencies.

Families formed through adoption and guardianship hold unique dynamics, strengths and challenges. Adoption Journeys is the specialized service designed to respond to these in a supportive way. Post-adoption services can be essential to help adoptive families embrace their new family identity. These services are especially important for families who face challenges after their adoptions are finalized.

Supportive services are provided in a family-centered manner with all services being consumer driven. All services are voluntary, with a family choosing when and how to participate.

A family should not feel alone when confronted with perplexing or worrisome issues. Families need not wait until a major problem has occurred before asking for assistance.

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
ADOPTION JOURNEYS:**

**CONTACT US AT
1-800-97-CARE-4
1-800-972-2734**

**OR VISIT
WWW.CHILD-FAMILYSERVICES.ORG**

INFORMATION & REFERRAL

Telephone support is available to families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through this toll free number: 1-800-97-CARE-4 (800-972-2734). Professionals can also call this line to connect directly with staff. The following can be provided in response to a call: *Information, Brief Assessment, Risk Identification, Referral and Follow-up.*

REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM

Having a service provider who can acknowledge a family's stress, strengths, and resources, including the unique perspective of adoption, can make a world of difference. This service offers families brief, adoption-focused home-based counseling, as well as advocacy and coordination of services. Areas of attention can include discussion about birth family, identity issues, parent support, understanding trauma and loss, and navigating complex systems to name a few. Staff can also participate in meetings with schools, courts, and other community providers. Regional Response Team services can vary greatly across families and across time, as they are tailored to a family's current need.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Adoption Journeys provides a range of support groups for parents and adopted children. Support Groups provide opportunities for members to meet with others to explore common concerns and interests. Regular meetings allow adults and children to share common experiences, learn from, and support each other. Adoption Journeys provides group services through the regional offices and by partnering with other agencies and organizations. Examples of groups offered by Adoption Journeys include: *Adoptive Parent Support Groups; Psycho-Educational Parent Groups; Children's Groups; Adolescent Groups.*

RESPITE SERVICES

As the word 'respite' implies, these services are intended to provide a brief break for families. These supports can help to alleviate stress, strengthen family relationships and/or respond to an unexpected family event. Respite Services fall into three categories: Child Care Respite, Child Recreational Respite, and Family Social/Recreational Respite. Regularly scheduled social activities offer opportunities for parents and children to spend time together and connect with other families, and respite activities allow for time apart. Families may participate in all categories of the respite program. Parents and Adoption Journeys staff work together to determine which form of respite (or combination thereof) could be most supportive for the family. Adoption Journeys Respite Services are **not** intended as a response to, or intervention for, a mental health crisis.

FAMILY LIAISONS

Sometimes there is nothing like hearing "I've been there" from someone who has. Adoption Journeys staff can facilitate direct parent to parent or family to family connections. Liaisons offer family members a meaningful experience of support. Liaisons are matched as closely as possible to the needs, expectations, and culture of a family's unique circumstances.

ADOPTION COMPETENCY TRAINING

Adoption Journeys offers trainings and consultations to professionals interested in enhancing their work with adopted children and their families. These consultations are tailored to the need of the organization and have the goal of enhancing adoption awareness of community service providers.