



Massachusetts Family Leadership Program

Empowering Families Through TLC

Training - Leadership - Community

The Family Leadership Program offers education, leadership skill development, and mentoring to parents/caregivers of children and adults eligible for DDS services living in communities across the Commonwealth. Organized by family members who have firsthand experience as caregivers for loved ones with disabilities, the program aims to share information on best practices and opportunities that facilitate full inclusion and active participation in all facets of life.

Family Leadership Program Opportunities

Get Connected

Advocacy Roundtable: Connect with fellow disability advocates, share your interests and achievements, and brainstorm steps for future actions. This virtual meeting occurs every second Tuesday of the month.

Sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/252083377996169>

Family Leadership Story Hour: Listen to graduates of the Family Leadership Series as they share how they have navigated systems, advocated for their loved ones, and activated change in their communities. Come to learn, feel inspired, and strengthen your own leadership journey.

Special Workshops and Presentations: Explore topics such as Charting the LifeCourse, The Art of Asking, Finding Your Voice, Families Making an Impact, and Leadership 101.

Learn to Lead

Family Leadership Series: This free leadership development program supports parents and caregivers of individuals with disabilities to become confident advocates at the local, state, and federal levels. Participants strengthen their leadership skills, learn to develop and pursue a vision for a full and meaningful life, and build supportive connections with other families. The Series includes exploration of the disability rights movement, advocacy and policy work, leadership development, and strategies for well-being and self-care. Applications open in July.

Stay Involved

Alumni Association: Stay connected with fellow graduates for mutual support, resource-sharing, and community-building. Share input on future programming and get involved in ongoing opportunities—such as family empowerment workshops, outreach and mentoring, social meetups, and disability advocacy activities. Join or update your information here: <https://form.jotform.com/240023392544146>

Book Club: Engage in themed book discussions that aim to enhance your leadership skills in a supportive setting with fellow Family Leadership Series graduates.

Family Leadership Projects: Receive mentorship and mini-grant support to design and carry out your own community project. These projects are family- and person-centered, highlight the strengths and interests of your loved one, and build meaningful community connections.

Advanced Family Leadership: Continue developing your leadership through workshops that focus on advanced advocacy strategies, effective communication, and staying informed on current disability policy and systems issues.



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