

SUPPORT GROUPS ARE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY CITY/TOWN

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS LIST IS UPDATED QUARTERLY. IT IS BEST TO CONTACT THE SUPPORT GROUP
DIRECTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION**

GROUPS WITH ** OFFER VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

DECEMBER 2023

**THE COMMISSION ON GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN
IS RUNNING A *VIRTUAL* GRG SUPPORT GROUP. MEETINGS ARE
ONE MONDAY NIGHT/MONTH AT 7:30 PM AND ONE TUESDAY
MORNING/MONTH AT 9:30 AM FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO
JOIN THE GROUP, CONTACT COLLEEN.PRITONI@MASS.GOV OR
KRISTEN.S.CIPULLO@MASS.GOV**

A

ACTON

Location: The Acton Senior Center
30 Sudbury Road
Acton, MA 01720

Meetings: This support group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month from
11:00AM–12:30PM. The group meets in-person to help each other
navigate through the challenges and joys faced as grandparents raising
grandchildren, and to become informed about the resources available.

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Joe O'Leary
978-897-9595
jj.oleary@comcast.net

**** AMHERST**

Location: The Bridge Family Resource Center
A Program of Clinical and Support Options
101 University Drive, Suite A3
Amherst, MA 01002

Meetings: This support group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 1:00PM-2:00PM
***This group is currently meeting virtually. For more information about participating in online meetings, please contact the facilitator via e-mail.**

Language: English and Spanish
Child Care:
Contact Information: Anne Barnes
413-549-0297 ext. 6566
Anne.barnes@cssoinc.org

****ATHOL**

Location: North Quabbin Family Resource Center
109 Lumber St.
Athol, MA 01331
****Handicap Accessible****

Meetings: This support group meets every Tuesday from 10:30AM–12:00PM
Meetings are hybrid, if coming in-person must pre-register the Thursday prior to the meeting due to space. Light refreshments provided.
***This group is also meeting virtually. For more information about participating in online meetings, please contact the facilitator via e-mail.**

Language: English
Child Care: Childcare stipend available upon request
Contact Information: Gina Crossman
(978) 249-5070
Ginacrossman@valuingourchildren.org

ATTLEBORO

Location: Attleboro Family Resource Center
29 N. Main Street
Attleboro, MA 02073

Meetings: This support group meets on Thursdays from 5:00PM-7:00PM

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: Gladys Maina
774-203-1516
gmaina@oldcolonymca.org

BILLERICA

Location:

Meetings: Contact Tracey or Anita for more information

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Tracey Rudenick 978-417-0744
Anita Tofuri 617-470-7654

BOSTON AREA:

DORCHESTER

Location: Family Nurturing Center
3rd Floor
200 Bowdoin Street
Dorchester, MA 02122

Meetings: This support group meets every 1st Saturday of the month from 10:00AM-11:30AM. The group is a safe, supportive, and relaxing environment to share feelings and receive support from other grandparents who are experiencing similar issues.

***This support group is specifically for Cape Verdean speaking grandparents**

Language: Cape Verdean

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Lourenca Barros-Randolph

(617)474-1143
Lbarros@familynurturing.org

ROXBURY

Location: Boston-Suffolk County Family Resource Center
56 Dimock Street
Roxbury, MA 02119

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: 617-469-8501
FRC@thehome.org

BOURNE

Location: Bourne Council on Aging
239 Main Street
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

Meetings: Contact Kari for more information

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Kari Phinney
508-759-0600 Ext 5227
kphinney@townofbourne.com

BRIGHTON

Location: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse
637 Cambridge St.
Brighton, MA 02135

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st Thursday of the month from 10:00AM-11:30AM. Services include support group, information, referral, and individual advocacy.

Language: English

Child Care: Not provided

Contact Information: Anne Mazzola

617-746-2056
Anne.mazzola@csjboston.org

BROCKTON

Location: The Family Center – Community Connections of Brockton
1367 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301

Meetings: This support group meets every Tuesday from 6:00PM-7:30PM

Language: English

Childcare: Provided upon request

Contact Information: Maria Brennan
508-857-0272
Maria.brennan@ccbrockton.org

BROOKFIELD

Location: Quaboag Church
175 Fiskdale Rd.
Brookfield, MA 01506

Meetings: This support group meets monthly. Please contact facilitator for days and times

Language: English

Child Care: Provided upon request

Contact Information: Terri McIsaac
774-452-0977
terriamcisaac@gmail.com

C

CHARLTON

Location: St. Joseph's Church
10H Putnam Rd Extension
Charlton, MA 01507

Meetings: Please contact facilitator for meeting information. Meetings are to advocate and organize grandparents in a supportive group to share

concerns, solutions, resources, and to develop friendships in a caring and confidential manner.

Language: English
Child Care: Not provided
Contact Information: Ted and Dianne Dubsky
(508) 320-7973
dubsky@rcn.com or dbdubsky@aol.com

CHELSEA

Location: Harbor Area Family Resource Center
95 4th Street
Chelsea, MA 02150

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:
Child Care:
Contact Information: 617-437-8550
HarborAreaFRC@thehome.org

CHICOPEE

Location: Chicopee Council on Aging/Chicopee Senior Center
5 West Main Street
Chicopee, MA

Meetings: This support group meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00PM
Meetings are for support, information, and resources, as well as social events.

Language: English
Child Care: Provided upon request
Contact Information: 413-534-3698

D

DORCHESTER

Location: Family Nurturing Center
3rd Floor
200 Bowdoin Street
Dorchester, MA 02122

Meetings: This support group meets every 1st Saturday of the month from 10:00AM-11:30AM. The group is a safe, supportive, and relaxing environment to share feelings and receive support from other grandparents who are experiencing similar issues.

***This support group is specifically for Cape Verdean speaking grandparents**

Language: Cape Verdean
Child Care: No
Contact Information: Lourenca Barros-Randolph
(617)474-1143
Lbarros@familynurturing.org

E

**** EVERETT**

Location: Everett Family Resource Center
548 Broadway
Everett, MA 02149

Meetings: This support group meets virtually the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:30AM

Language: English
Child Care: No
Contact Information: Eleanor Gayhart
781-581-4750
egayhart@eliotchs.org

F

FALL RIVER

Location: Fall River Family Resource Center
45 Rock Street

Fall River, MA 02720

Meetings:

*English Speaking Group:

This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

Dinner and childcare available. Please register ahead of time.

Contact Information:

Allison Hague

508-567-1735

ahague@frfsa.org

*Spanish Speaking Group:

This support group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

Dinner and childcare available. Please register ahead of time.

Contact Information:

Jaydith Matias-Diaz

508-567-1753

jdaiz@frfsa.org

Language:

English and Spanish

Child Care:

Provided (contact facilitator for more information)

Contact Information:

See above for each group

FITCHBURG

Location:

MOC Family Resource Center

49 Nursery Lane Suite 201

Fitchburg, MA

Meetings:

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in person from 11:00AM-12:00PM

Language:

English (Spanish interpreter can be made available)

Childcare:

Contact Information:

Kristin Cole, LICSW

978-751-4164

kcole@mocinc.org

FRAMINGHAM #1

Location:

Callahan Senior Center

535 Union Avenue

Framingham, MA

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: 508-532-5980 ext. 4108

****FRAMINGHAM #2**

Location: The Framingham Family Resource Center and The Wayside Youth & Family Support Network
88 Lincoln Street
Framingham, MA 01702

Meetings: This support group meets via Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month 9:30AM-11:00AM. Support for school issues/child care behavioral/mental health issues; financial resources; custody issues community & statewide resources.

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Dodi Hardsog
508-469-3221
Dodi_hardsog@waysideyouth.org

FRANKLIN

Location: The Bernon Family YMCA
45 Forge Hill Road
Franklin, MA

Meetings: This support group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:30PM-7:30PM.

Language: English

Child Care: Upon request

Contact Information: 508-528-8708

G

GARDNER

Location: Gardner Family Resource Center
205 School St Suite 302
Gardner, MA 01440

Meetings: This support group meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 1:30PM

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact information: Josie Heath
Joellen.heath@csoinc.org
Catherine Phillips
Catherine.phillips@csoinc.org
978-730-1275

GREAT BARRINGTON

Location: Great Barrington Family Resource Center
141 West Ave.
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Meetings: Call the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: 413-528-0298
GBFRC@csoinc.org

GREENFIELD

Location: Community Action Family Center
90 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 12:00PM–1:00PM

Language: English

Child Care: Provided upon request

Contact Information: 413-475-1555
familycenter@communityaction.us

H

**** HAVERHILL**

Location: NFI Parenting Together
76 Winter St
Haverhill, MA 01831

Meetings: This support group meets each Monday from 10:00AM-11:00AM virtually via ZOOM. This group meets weekly so we can help each other navigate through challenges and joys faced as grandparents raising grandchildren.

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Gerrie Cahill
978-766-6146
gerriecahill@nafi.com

HOLYOKE

Location: Enlace de Familias, FRC
299 Main Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 12:00PM-1:00PM
Services: peer to peer support group, learning new skills, legal matters, and life experiences.

Language: Spanish

Child Care: Not at this time

Contact Information: Ruth Sepulveda
413-409-5063
ruth@enlacedefamilias.org

HYANNIS

Location: Cape Cod Family Resource Center
29 Basset Lane
Hyannis, MA 02601

Meetings: This support group meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 4:30PM-6:30PM with Kerry Bickford, a founding member of the Commission on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren from 2009-2019. This group provides a supportive environment for all grandparents/relative caregivers who play a role in raising grandchildren. Dinner and childcare provided.
**Registration is required.*

Language: English
Child Care: Registration required
Contact Information: Cape Cod Family Resource Center
508-815-5100 or
Kerry Bickford at Kbickford81@comcast.net

I
J
K
L

LAWRENCE

Location: Family and Community Resource Center
430 North Canal Street
Lawrence, MA 01840

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:
Childcare:
Contact: 978-975-8800
info@fsmv.org

**** LOWELL #1**

Location: Virtual

Meetings: This support group meets virtually on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 11:00AM-12:00PM
This group is open to grandparents raising grandchildren throughout the Merrimack Valley and North Shore.

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Cindy Hession-Richard
978-946-1445
chession@agespan.org

LOWELL #2

Location: NFI Family Resource Center of Greater Lowell
27 Prescott Street
Lowell, MA 01852

Meetings: This support group meets every Monday from 10:00AM-11:00AM

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Brenna Sullivan
978-455-0701
brennasullivan@nafi.com

LOWELL #3

Location: Lowell Senior Center
276 Broadway St.
Lowell, MA 01854

Meetings: This support group meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 11:00AM.

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: Crystal Polizzotti
978-651-3034
CPolizzotti@AgeSpan.org

**** LYNN**

Location: Lynn Senior Center
37 Friend St
Lynn, MA 01901

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 10:00AM-11:00AM.

The Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Support Group in Lynn is open to grandparents who are in both the primary and secondary caregiver role for their grandchildren.

The group is a community-collaboration supported by Greater Lynn Senior Services, Gregg House after school program, the Lynn Family Resource Center, and the Department of Children and Families. The mission of the program is to unite, improve, and support grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. This goal is achieved through weekly support group meetings.

***This group is currently meeting virtually. For more information about participating in online meetings, please contact the facilitator via e-mail.**

Language: English (Bi-Lingual support available)
Child Care: Not provided
Contact Information: Meegan Simpson-Best, Social Worker
(781) 477-1641
mbest@lynnma.gov

M

**** MALDEN**

Location: Tufts Medicine-Melrose Wakefield Healthcare Community Services
239 Commercial Street
Malden, MA 02048

Meetings: This support group is meeting VIRTUALLY and IN-PERSON:
Meetings are held twice a month. Monthly Monday evenings at 7:00PM via zoom. Monthly in-person meetings at 11:00AM (on either a Monday or a Tuesday). Please contact facilitator for more specific information on dates and locations.

Group is open to people in Malden, Melrose, North Reading, Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, Lynnfield, Winchester & surrounding communities

Language: English
Child Care: Not Provided
Contact Information: Stephanie Ramy/Joya Pezzuto
781-338-7559
aginginbalance@tuftsmedicine.org

MANSFIELD

Location: The Mansfield Council on Aging
255 Hope Street
Mansfield, MA 02048

Meetings: Contact Melissa or Josephine for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: Melissa Leonard
Melissa.leonard@mansfieldschools.com
Josephine Madrazo
jmadrazo@mansfieldma.com

MARTHA'S VINEYARD:

VINEYARD HAVEN

Location: Island Wide Youth Collaborative
Martha's Vineyard Community Services
111 Vineyard Haven Rd.
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

Meetings: Contact center for more information

Language: English

Child Care: Available – must pre-register

Contact Information: Jeanine Fitzgerald, Facilitator
508-693-7900
info@mvcommunityservices.org

N

NANTUCKET

Location: Nantucket Family Resource Center
1B Freedom Square
Nantucket, MA 02554

Meeting: Contact center for more information

Language: English
Child Care: Not at this time
Contact information: 508-221-0193

NEW BEDFORD

Location: The Family Resource & Development Center
128 Union Street 3rd Floor
New Bedford, MA 02740

Meetings: This support group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 5:30PM-7:30PM. Dinner is provided.

Language: English
Child Care: Limited child care is available, please contact the center for information
Contact Information: 508-994-4521

NORTH ADAMS

Location: NBCC Family Resource Center
61 Main Street #218
North Adams, MA

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 4:00PM-6:00PM
Light meal provided
***Please register by noon the day of the meeting**
*The NBCC also offers a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Coffee Hour on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Uno Community Center 127 River St in North Adams

Language: English
Childcare: Yes, available upon request
Contact Information: Donna Senecal
413-663-7588
dsenecal@nbcccoalition.org



Location: Oxford High School
100 Carbuncle Dr.
Oxford, MA 01540

Meeting: This support group meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:30AM

Language: English

Child Care: Available upon request

Contact Information: Kimberly Rockwood
978-413-8989
krockwood@worchester.edu

P

PITTSFIELD

Location: 18 Degrees Family Resource Center
480 West St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: 413-448-8281

PLYMOUTH #1

Location: Plymouth Center for Active Living
44 Nook Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

Meetings: This support group meets every Thursday from 10:00AM–12:30PM.
Provides information, referral and education
Meetings are in-person

Language: English (Translation for Haitian Creole, Portuguese, French, and Spanish available upon request)

Child Care: No
Contact Information: Beth Hadfield
(508) 830-4230
bhadfield@plymouth-ma.gov

PLYMOUTH #2

Location: Plymouth Family Resource Center
430-3 Court Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

Meetings: This support group meets the first Saturday of every month from
9:00AM-10:00AM

Language: English
Child Care: Yes
Contact Information: Tom Powers
774-283-6531
tpowers@baystatecs.org

Q

QUINCY

Location: Quincy Family Resource Center
1120 Hancock Street
Quincy, MA 02169

Meetings: This support group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from
11:00PM-12:00PM

Language: English
Child Care: Not at this time
Contact Information: Andrea Roderick
617-481-7227 ext. 157
aroderick@baystatecs.org

R

ROXBURY

Location: Boston-Suffolk County Family Resource Center

56 Dimock Street
Roxbury, MA 02119

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: 617-469-8501
FRC@thehome.org

S

SALEM

Location: Pathways for Children Family Resource Center
27 Congress St. Suite 1211
Salem, MA 01970

Meetings: This support group meets the first Monday of the month from
11:00AM-12:30PM

Language: English

Childcare: None

Contact Information: 978-296-8080

SANDWICH #1

Location: Corpus Christi Parish
324 Quaker Meeting House
East Sandwich, MA

Meetings: This support group meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 10:00AM

Language: English

Childcare: Not provided

Contact Information: Maria Bess
Giftedgrannies1@gmail.com

SANDWICH #2

Location: Forestdale School
151 Route 130

Sandwich, MA

Meetings: This support group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Meetings are called “Home is Where the Heart is” and although the group is not specific to grandparents raising grandchildren, many do attend. The group is facilitated by Adoption Journeys. Dinner and childcare available upon registration. You must RSVP.

Language: English
Child Care: Child Care available upon request, please contact facilitator for more information.

Contact Information: Val Perry
vperry@cfsservices.org

SOUTHBRIDGE

Location: Southbridge Family Resource Center
5 Optical Drive 1st Fl
Southbridge, MA 01550

Meetings: This support group meets every other Monday from 10:00AM-11:00AM

Language: English
Childcare: Not Provided
Contact Information: 508-519-3590 Option 1
sfrc@sevenhills.org

SPRINGFIELD

Location: Gandara Center - Springfield Family Resource Center
18 Gaucher Street
Springfield, MA 01109

Meetings: This support group meets every other Saturday from 1:00PM-3:00PM

Language: English
Childcare: Not Provided
Contact Information: Teresa Austin
413-733-7699
Taustin@springfieldcommunityconnections.com

I

TAUNTON #1

Location: Taunton Family Resource Center
37 Main Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Meetings: The support group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month
from 11:00AM-12:30PM
Lunch served at each meeting

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Anne Ferioli
508-916-6848
aferioli@oldcolonyymca.org

TAUNTON #2

Location: Triumph, Inc.
25 Barnum Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Meetings: This support group meets the 4th Thursday of every month from
10:00 AM-11:30AM.

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Nancy Tilbe
508-822-5388 Ext 2-8
ntilbe@triumphinc.org

TOWNSEND

Location: Townsend Senior Center
16 Dudley Rd.
Townsend, MA 01469

Meetings: Contact the center for more information

Language:

Child Care:

Contact Information: Jeanne Urda
978-597-1710

TURNERS FALLS

Location: United Arc
294 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Meetings: This support group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
10:00AM–11:30AM in-person

Information & referral; consultation; intergenerational events
*This group is open to all grandparents and relative caregivers in
Franklin County

Language: English

Child Care: No

Contact Information: Jan Doody
413-834-8312
janetdoody@theunitedarc.org

U
V

VINEYARD HAVEN

Location: Island Wide Youth Collaborative
Martha's Vineyard Community Services
111 Vineyard Haven Rd.
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

Meetings: Contact center for days and times

Language: English

Child Care: Available – must pre-register

Contact Information: Jeanine Fitzgerald, Facilitator
(508) 693-7900
info@mvcommunityservices.org

W

WALPOLE

Location: Walpole Council on Aging
60 South St.
Walpole, MA 02081

Meetings: This support group meets the second Wednesday of each month from 12:00PM-1:30PM. Lunch is provided. Call to register.

Language: English

Childcare: Please contact the facilitator for more information

Contact: Jillian Nauman
508-668-3330
jnauman@walpole-ma.gov

WARE

Location: BNH Family Resource Center
82 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082

Meetings: This support group meets every Thursday from 10:30AM-11:30AM in-person
Join us weekly to have adult conversation and to connect with others going through the same things you are, trying to be both parent and grandparent. For more information or to register contact the Family Resource Center

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: (413) 277-6601
bhnfrc@bhninc.org

WAREHAM

Location: Wareham Middle School
4 Viking Drive
Wareham, MA 02571

Meetings: This support group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact Information: Pat Gagnon
508-291-3500 ext. 3556

WEBSTER

Location: Gladys E. Kelly Library
2 Lake Street
Webster, MA 01570

Meetings: This support group meets every 3rd Thursday of the month from
6:30PM-8:00PM

Language: English

Child Care: Available upon request

Contact Information: Kimberly Rockwood
978-413-8989
krockwood@worchester.edu

WESTFIELD

Location: Westfield Family Resource Center
16 George St.
Westfield, MA 01085

Meetings: This support group meets on Wednesday from 5:30PM-7:00PM. Child
care and food is provided.

Language:

Child Care: Yes

Contact Information: Brenda Tavares Ortiz
413-278-0773

WESTMINSTER

Location: Westminster Senior Center
69 West Main Street
Westminster, MA 01473

Meetings: Contact Dorene for more information.

Language: English

Child Care: Provided upon request

Contact Information: Dorene Francis
Dorenefrancis626@gmail.com

WORCESTER

Location: Worcester Family Resource Center
20 Cedar Street
Worcester, MA 01609

Meetings: This support group meets on the 3rd Friday of every month from 9:30AM-11:00AM. Join other grandparents and kinship caregivers of children. Light breakfast and coffee served at meetings.
*Please RSVP for meeting

Language: English

Child Care:

Contact: Debbie
508-796-0118
dbunker@sevenhills.org

****Statewide Virtual GRG Grief Support:**

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Grief Group

A group of grandparents and kin who have lost a child to overdose. The group is facilitated by Kerry Bickford, who also facilitates the GRG group in Hyannis. This group is for grandparents and kin in Massachusetts. The group meets via Zoom.

Contact Kerry at kbickford81@comcast.net