



SUPPORTING OUR ANCHORS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026

Every child deserves carefree summer memories.

Summer is the perfect time to make memories together. From parks and beaches to library programs, outdoor concerts, and community events, Rhode Island offers plenty of free and low-cost ways for families to connect and have fun.

Check out these links when you are looking for ideas:

Rhode Island State Parks, beaches, and trails:

<https://riparks.ri.gov/>

Roger Williams Park Conservancy events:

<https://www.rwpconservancy.org/events/>

Rhode Island family-friendly events calendar:

<https://www.visitrhodeisland.com/events/>

Thank you for being an anchor for Rhode Island's children and families. We hope you have a fun, safe, and memorable summer!



Stay Safe During Extreme Heat

Hot summer days can be dangerous, especially for young children. Help keep your family safe by drinking plenty of water, limiting outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day, wearing lightweight clothing, and taking breaks in air-conditioned spaces when possible. Never leave a child or pet unattended in a parked vehicle, even for a short time.



Helpful Resources



Rhode Island Department of Health -
Heat Safety:

<https://health.ri.gov/healthrisks/extremeheat/>

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency -
Cooling Centers:

<https://riema.ri.gov/resources/cooling-centers>

SUMMER EVENTS



Summer Fun at Spring Lake Beach

JULY 25, 2026 | 11AM TO 3:30PM

- Private Beach Area
- Access to Champlin Hall
- Lunch, Snacks, Drinks Provided
- Arcade \$\$ for children age 4+

50 Old Hillside Dr | Glendale, RI 02826

Registration is required at
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1992928866889?aff=oddtcreator>



The 11th Annual DUFFLE BAG BASH

Fostering Hope for Children in State Care

Far too often, children and youth that live in foster care or residential placements transport their belongings in a trash bag. Providing youth with duffle bags and luggage allow for them to safely transport their belongings with dignity.

WHEN:

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
12:00 PM- 3:00 PM
RAIN DATE: 8/10/26

WHERE:

MATUNUCK COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
619 MATUNUCK BEACH RD,
SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI

ADMISSION:

NEW DUFFLE BAG,
NEW ROLLING LUGGAGE,
or \$25 GIFT CARD (per adult)
NEW BACKPACK (per child)

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING SPONSORS!

as of 3/26/2026



LIVE MUSIC
FOOD
GAMES
RAFFLE
SILENT AUCTION
THERAPY ANIMALS
TOUCH-A-TRUCK
and MORE!



SCAN FOR INFO or
TO MAKE A DONATION!

HOSTED BY:



Lise M. Iwon



Join the Be An Anchor team and our
partners at these
2026 PVD Food Truck events!



JULY

Saturday, July 11 | 5:00-8:00 PM
Food Trucks & Concerts - Chase Farm - Lincoln

Saturday, July 18 | 4:30-8:00 PM
Food Truck Sunsets - Safe Harbor New England Boatworks -
Portsmouth

AUGUST

Thursday, August 6 | 5:00-8:00 PM
Fry Farm Food Truck Nights - East Greenwich

Wednesday, August 19 | 5:00-8:00 PM
Foster Fairgrounds Food Truck Night

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 10 | 4:30-7:30 PM
Warwick Food Truck Night - Crowne Plaza

<https://foodtrucksin.com/food-truck-events>
<https://beananchor.ri.gov>



PLEASE CLICK



**TO LIKE AND
SHARE OUR
BE AN ANCHOR
FACEBOOK PAGE.**



FOSTER CARE RECRUITMENT

Please help us spread the word about the need for more resource families by sharing the upcoming information sessions.

FOSTER FUN

JOIN US AT A FOSTER CARE INFORMATION SESSION TO LEARN HOW

BE AN ANCHOR

Scan to register:

Saturday, July 11th 10:00-11:00AM
Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England
1500 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886

For more info email:
dcyf.rds@dcyf.ri.gov



July & August Information Sessions

Saturday, July 11th 10:00-11:00AM

In-person at

Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England
500 Greenwich Ave, Warwick, RI

Register here

Wednesday July 15th 6:00-8:00PM

Adoption RI Virtual Foster Care
Information Meeting

Email: aforte@adoptionri.org to register.

Thursday, July 30th 5:30-6:30PM

DCYF Virtual Foster Care
Information Session.

Register here

Saturday, August 8th 10:00-11:00AM

In-person at

Cranston Central Library
140 Sockanosset Cross Rd, Cranston

Register here

Thursday August 13th 6:00-8:00PM

Adoption RI Virtual Foster Care
Information Meeting

Email: aforte@adoptionri.org to register.

Thursday, August 27th 5:30-6:30PM

DCYF Virtual Foster Care
Information Session.

Register here



Questions? Email: dcyf.rds@dcyf.ri.gov

SHARE YOUR VOICE

Together... We Can Make a Difference

...we are
"Stronger Together"

The Foster Family Advisory Council and the Kinship Advisory Councils are merging and we want to hear from you!

If you are a resource family, this meeting is for you! Are you willing to share your experiences with us to improve the new council?



Thurs., July 9, 2026

7:00 to 8:30 pm via Zoom

Join us for an
informational meeting!
Your voice matters and
is important!

***Meet the Leadership Team**
***Share an Overview of the**
Foster Parent Bill of Rights

Registration link:
<https://forms.gle/KYfTHI3FE4fcWexP8>

strongertogetherRI@gmail.com



Digital translation available

Scan QR Code to
register:



Juntos... Podemos marcar la diferencia

.....somos
"Más fuertes juntos"

El Consejo Asesor de Familias de Acogida y los Consejos Asesores de Familias de Parientes se van a fusionar, ¡y queremos saber tu opinión!

¡Si eres una familia de acogida, esta reunión es para ti! ¿Estás dispuesto a compartir tus experiencias con nosotros para mejorar el nuevo consejo?

Jueves, 9 de Julio de 2026

De 19:00 a 20:30 h por Zoom

¡Acompáñanos en una
reunión informativa!

¡Tu opinión cuenta y es
importante!

***Conoce al equipo directivo**
***Descubre un resumen de la**
Carta de Derechos de los
Padres de Acogida

Enlace de inscripción:
<https://forms.gle/KYfTHI3FE4fcWexP8>

strongertogetherRI@gmail.com



Traducción digital disponible

Escanea el código QR
para registrarte:



FREE TRAINING FOR ALL RESOURCE FAMILIES

All Rhode Island resource families have free access to Foster Parent College (FPC), an online library of self-paced courses for foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers. Explore topics like trauma-informed parenting, attachment, behavior management, supporting LGBTQ+ youth, and more—all available anytime, anywhere.

To get started click: [here](#)
Need help accessing your account?
Email: dcyf.rds@dcyf.ri.gov

Staying Anchored: Diving Deeper

**Back to School: Helping Children
in Foster Care Thrive**

Aug 11 | Tuesday | 6:30–7:30PM



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL TRAINING

**Back to School:
Helping Children in Foster Care Thrive**

Gain strategies to support academic success and school transitions for children in foster care.



Scan QR code to register

Questions? Email dcyf.rds@dcyf.ri.gov



Resource Family Training

FPC FosterParentCollege.com
Online Training for Caregivers, Parents, and Agency Staff



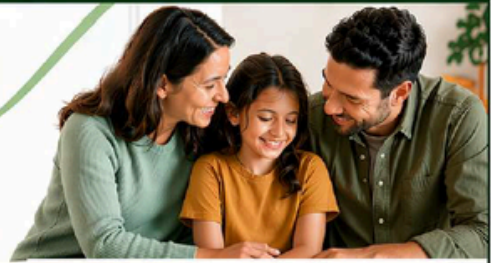
RESOURCES



Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS)

Rhode Island behavioral health crisis services for children and youth

Immediate, in-person behavioral health crisis response for children and youth ages 2 to 21. Available 24/7/365, throughout Rhode Island, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.



24/7/365
Availability



1 hour
Response



Up to 30 days
Stabilization Services

• HOW MRSS WORKS •

1



Triage and Dispatch

- Call or text 988 and ask for MRSS
- A trained responder gathers information about the family's needs and concerns
- The family is connected to an MRSS team in most cases
- Family needs and preferences help guide the next steps

2



Mobile Response

- In person response within 1 hour for immediate needs
- Support comes to the family's chosen location, such as home, school, or another community setting
- During the first contact, the team provides de-escalation, safety assessment, and crisis planning
- Visits can be scheduled within 24 hours if there is no immediate safety concern

3



Stabilization

- Short-term follow-up to help families stay safe and stable
- The team connects the family to services and care that fit the family's situation
- Support is personalized to the child and family
- Stabilization continues for up to 30 days



Who can use MRSS

- Children and youth ages 2 to 21 in Rhode Island
- Families concerned about a child's emotional or behavioral health
- Referrals can come from families, schools, or providers - always with family involvement



What MRSS provides

- Rapid, family-centered support in the least restrictive setting
- Safety planning with the child and family
- Assessment of needs, strengths, and immediate supports
- Connection to follow-up care and community resources



How to access MRSS

Call or text 988 and ask for MRSS



Call 911 instead when

- There is an immediate medical emergency
- There is an immediate dangerous situation or urgent safety threat



Crisis support when it matters most — anytime, wherever families need it.

Behavioral health crisis support for children and youth.



VISIT OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUPPORT THAT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU!



The Heart Tree



Foster Forward



Adoption RI



Home | RI Village