



## HISTORY

Kennedy-Donovan Center grew out of the close relationship between Luella Hennessey Donovan and the family of Joseph Patrick and Rose Kennedy. Luella Hennessey joined the Kennedy family in 1936 as a private duty nurse and traveled with them when Joseph Kennedy was appointed ambassador to Great Britain in 1937.

Luella tended to the needs of the Kennedy children, including Rosemary, the eldest daughter, who had developmental disabilities and was institutionalized in 1941. Rose Kennedy confided with Luella that she wished her daughter could have lived a typical family life and have attended a local school.

This inspired Luella to embark on a new career at the age of 59. In 1969, after earning her degree from Boston College, Luella fulfilled her dream by opening one of the first community-based educational and therapeutic programs for young children with a three-year grant from the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation.

In gratitude, Luella named her program the Kennedy Center for Handicapped Children. The program began serving four children in borrowed space with Luella as teacher along with a physical therapist. Over the next twenty years, the Center grew into a multi-program agency serving thousands of children and adults throughout southeastern and south central Massachusetts. The agency was re-named Kennedy-Donovan Center in 1987 in recognition of Mrs. Donovan's contributions.

Kennedy-Donovan Center remains committed to the principle that all individuals have the right to participate and thrive in their communities. We honor Luella's legacy through leadership in providing flexible, creative, and community-based human services.

## CORE VALUES

These values guide Kennedy-Donovan Center's services, management and planning:

- Client-centered
- Family-centered
- Respect
- Integrity
- Community
- Excellence

For more information on how KDC models these values, please see our Strategic Plan on our website at [kdc.org](http://kdc.org).



## CONTACT INFORMATION BY SERVICE AND AREA

**Chapter 766 School**  
Greater New Bedford: 508-992-4756

**Early Intervention**  
Greater Attleboro: 508-226-6035  
Greater New Bedford: 508-997-1570  
Greater Plymouth: 508-747-2012  
South Central Mass: 508-765-0292

**Early Intervention Partnerships**  
Greater New Bedford: 508-997-1570  
South Central Mass: 508-765-0292

**Family Support/Respite Care**  
Blackstone Valley: 508-473-5700  
Cape Cod & Islands: 508-385-6019  
Metro West: 508-473-5700  
Greater New Bedford: 508-997-5875  
Newton/South Norfolk: 508-473-5700  
Taunton/Attleboro: 508-473-5700

**Healthy Families**  
Greater New Bedford: 508-997-1570  
Greater Plymouth: 508-747-2012

**Intensive Foster Care**  
Southeastern Mass: 508-997-5875

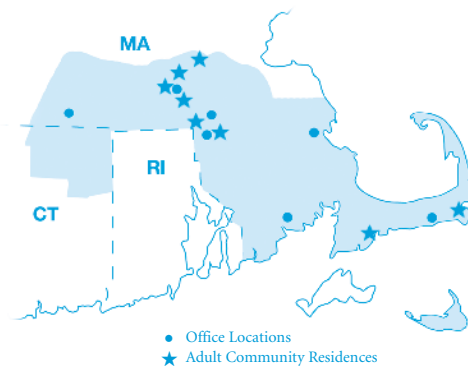
**Adult Services including:**

- Family Support/Respite Care
- Individual Support
- Shared Living/Adult Family Care
- Supported Living/Supervised Living

Blackstone Valley: 508-473-5700  
Cape Cod & Islands: 508-385-6019  
Metro West: 508-473-5700  
Greater New Bedford: 508-997-5875  
Newton/South Norfolk: 508-473-5700  
Taunton/Attleboro: 508-473-5700

**Day Habilitation Program**  
Greater New Bedford: 508-992-4756

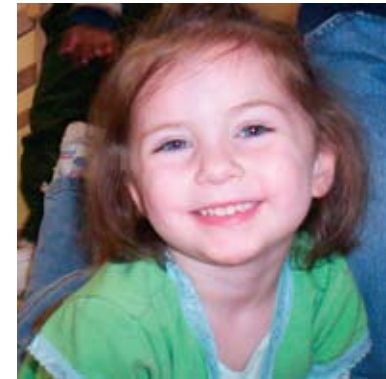
**Transitional Job Support**  
Blackstone Valley: 508-473-5700



**KDC offices:**  
Attleboro, Foxboro, Milford, New Bedford, Plymouth, So. Yarmouth and Southbridge.

**Adult Community Residences:**  
Attleboro, Chatham, Framingham, Hopkinton, Mashpee, Milford and Norton.

**Administrative Offices**  
One Commercial Street  
Foxboro, MA 02035  
508-543-2542  
[kdc.org](http://kdc.org)



## MISSION STATEMENT

Kennedy-Donovan Center (KDC) supports individuals and families with developmental disabilities and similar needs to reach their maximum potential and quality of life through advocacy and individualized services.

## OVERVIEW

Kennedy-Donovan Center (KDC) is a non-profit organization, founded in 1969 on the principle that all children and individuals have the right to participate and thrive in their community. Today, KDC serves over 4,500 infants, children, adults and families annually throughout southeastern and south central Massachusetts. With a diverse and dedicated staff of 350 employees and 300 respite, home care providers and foster parents, KDC operates a range of program models from eight community offices and ten residences, and offers in-home services to thousands of families in 150 communities.



## CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

Massachusetts Departments of Mental Retardation, Education, Public Health, and MassHealth (Office of Medicaid).

## MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP), Massachusetts Association of Private Schools (MAAPS), Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers (MCHSP), Massachusetts Early Intervention Consortium (MEIC), Tri-town Chamber of Commerce.

# community

## FUNDING SOURCES

Kennedy-Donovan Center programs are funded in whole or in part through contracts with the Massachusetts Departments of Mental Retardation, Education, Public Health, as well as local education agencies, Children's Trust Fund, Medicaid and third party insurance agencies.



## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Kennedy-Donovan Center offers a full range of consumer and family-centered services to meet the needs of individuals and families throughout their life from pregnancy, infancy, childhood, adulthood and into the elder years.

Annually, KDC serves nearly 4,000 children, youth and families with disabilities or who are at risk for developmental disabilities or delays in order to help them develop to their fullest potential. Services are individualized to the child's needs as well as the needs of the family, and are community-based, supporting their fullest participation in society.

Kennedy-Donovan Center also serves over 800 adults annually with support services that are both individualized and community-based, supporting the fullest possible participation in society. All programs include a full spectrum of services and supports from drop-in services for individuals working in the community and living alone in their own homes, to group homes with twenty-four hour support seven days a week.

## SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- **Intensive Foster Care** finds children homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs. The staff works to prevent institutionalization and focuses on permanency planning for these children through reunification, stable placement or adoption.

- **Early Intervention** serves children ages birth to 36 months and their families. Working closely with families of children who have or are at risk of developmental disabilities and other delays, educational, therapeutic and supportive services are provided in community-based settings as family needs dictate.

- **Early Intervention Partnership Program** serves pregnant women whose characteristics make them and their child vulnerable to poor health outcomes and developmental delays. It is a partner to the Early Intervention program that facilitates women to engage in healthy outcomes before they give birth and in the first months after delivery. In-home and community-based services include education, mentoring and resource connection.



## SERVICES FOR ADULTS

- **Transitional Job Support** partners with employers to assist adults with disabilities in finding and maintaining meaningful paid employment.

- **Individual Support** provides services for adults living on their own in the community including meal planning, financial management, social/recreational support, counseling and referrals, daily living skills training, and education and vocational support.

- **Family Support Services** provides services tailored to each family, including direct support, access to financial aid, education, advocacy and respite care for adults and children with developmental disabilities living with their families.

- **Day Habilitation/Life Long Learning** is our newest program (opened Summer 2008) available to anyone in the community needing our specialized services. It provides high needs students graduating from our Chapter 766 school with a comprehensive managed program of therapies, developmental skills training and assistance with activities of daily living in the context of a supportive and caring environment.

## RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR ADULTS

- **Shared Living and Adult Family Care** gives adults living with developmental disabilities a family structure to live in the community. Program staff recruit, train and supervise families who provide a structured home environment. Shared Living serves adults with general developmental disabilities, while Adult Family Care works to prevent institutionalization by serving adults with medical needs and/or disabling conditions that impede daily living activities.

- **Supported Living** provides direct ongoing services and support to adults with disabilities living independently in their own homes.

- **Supervised Living** provides 24/7 support and oversight to adults living together in groups of two to four in neighborhood homes that are fully integrated into the community.

