

# MEMBERSHIP MONDAY: Communities for People

Highlighting Communities for People's Impact on the Community

This week, for Membership Monday, we are featuring Communities for People (CFP), an organization that has been supporting children, youth and families for 50 years. Founded in 1976, CFP provides community-based services across Massachusetts and Rhode Island to help young people and families build stability, strengthen relationships and prepare for greater independence. Through foster care, home-based and family support services, residential programs, counseling, independent living and youth development opportunities, CFP serves more than 1,700 youth and families each year.

## Who is Communities for People and What do They do?

Established in 1976, Communities for People (CFP) is dedicated to providing community-based support to children, youth, and families navigating the foster care systems in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. CFP believes that every young person deserves a stable foundation, permanent relationships and the opportunity to succeed. As decades passed, their work in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island grew significantly.

Through a comprehensive range of services, including family preservation, home based services, prevention programs, traditional foster care, and a variety of residential programs – CFP serves over 1700 youth and families annually. CFP works every day to break cycles of poverty and help young people transition smoothly into adulthood and families find stability.



### Programs and services include:

- Home-Based & Family Support Services (MA & RI): CFP works directly with children and families in their homes and communities to strengthen family relationships, address behavioral and emotional challenges, and help families work toward greater stability. Services can include family mediation, behavioral management strategies, parenting support and connections to additional community resources.
- Counseling & Wellness (RI): offers individual, couples, family and group therapy, along with creative approaches that provide alternatives to traditional talk therapy.
- Residential & Community Living Programs (MA & RI): provides a range of community-based residential options for youth who need additional structure and support. Programs combine clinical and case management services with opportunities to develop problem-solving, educational, vocational and daily living skills while preparing youth for reunification with family or greater independence.
- Independent & Supportive Living (MA & RI): Programs help older youth and young adults build the skills they need to successfully transition into adulthood. Support can include financial literacy, housing, education, career readiness, employment assistance, community resources and the development of strong support networks.
- Pathways to Independence (MA): Designed for young adults ages 18–22 who are nearing their transition out of state-supported services, Pathways provides case management and assistance with housing, education, employment, mental health and substance use resources, and building a stable network of supportive peers and adults.
- iWorks (MA): This paid internship program gives youth an opportunity to build professional skills and workplace experience. Participants receive training, job coaching and additional support designed to prepare them for future employment.
- Foster Care & Foster Parent Support (MA & RI): CFP provides foster care services for children and young adults who need safe, supportive family environments, including youth with behavioral, emotional, medical or developmental needs. The organization also supports foster families through relief care and, in Rhode Island, specialized professional foster parenting.

- Youth Development Services (RI): CFP helps transition-age youth build practical skills as they prepare to leave state care. Services include financial literacy, career and work readiness, mentoring, life-skills development, savings opportunities and youth leadership and peer connections.
- Family Care Community Partnership (RI): Using a wraparound approach, this program works with families to identify their priorities and strengthen their natural networks of support, including relatives, friends, schools and community organizations.



### When did Communities for People join the Providers' Council and why?

Communities for People has been a member of the Providers' Council since 1978. Over the years, the organization has remained connected to the Council through a shared commitment to strengthening the human services sector and supporting the individuals, families and communities served by member organizations. Membership also provides opportunities for CFP to stay engaged with industry updates, professional development, advocacy efforts and a statewide network of fellow human services providers.

### Looking Ahead: Communities for People's Continued Support to Families and Communities

This year Communities for People is celebrating a milestone: *50 Years of Care. A Lifetime of Impact.*

CFP is hosting its 50th Anniversary Gala on **Thursday, October 1st from 6-9pm at the Endicott Estate in Dedham, MA.** The 70s-inspired event will bring together community leaders, advocates, and supporters to celebrate 50 years of CFP's commitment to children, youth, and families—honoring the resilience of young people, the dedication of foster families, and the partners who have helped shape our journey. The evening will also raise critical funds to support CFP's evolving continuum of care.

Whether you attend in person, sponsor a table, or make a contribution from afar, your support directly impacts foster youth in our region.

- Learn More & Buy Tickets: [www.c4p.org/50th](http://www.c4p.org/50th)
- Donation: [www.c4p.org/donate](http://www.c4p.org/donate)
- Follow CFP's Work: Visit [communities-for-people.org](http://communities-for-people.org) or follow @CFPkids on Facebook and Instagram.

Interested in learning more or getting involved? Explore the links below to learn more about Communities for People, their services, and upcoming opportunities to support their work and connect with the Providers' Council.

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