The Center for Families
Supporting patient families through their experience at Boston Children’s Hospital.

Lactation Support Services
617-355-0005
Lactation Consultants provide expectant and nursing moms breastfeeding assessment, evaluation, education and support. Services are available for both families and staff. Breast pump rentals are available in the Center for Families.

Parking Program
Parking for income eligible inpatient families

Patient Relations
617-355-7673
› Staffed 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
› Staff are available to patients and families who have complaints, compliments, problems, questions and other needs

Pawprints Program
Provides patients and their families with a visit from a dog, providing a healthy diversion from the usual hospital routine and an opportunity for social interaction.

Puerto Rico Program
Provides information and resources to patient families from Puerto Rico in an organized, efficient and culturally competent manner

Seasonal Events
Adopt a Family
A targeted donation initiative to seek sponsors for patient families in need during the holiday season

Craft Fair
This all-day event for patient families and staff features a marketplace of unique gifts from more than 40 vendors, including handbags, quilts, stained glass, jewelry, holiday decorations, greeting cards and much, much more

Education Fair
A free event where over 30 colleges, universities, trade schools and GED programs from around New England present information regarding programming, online courses, disability services, scholarships, financial aid and more

Wellness
Provides a variety of programs and groups designed to keep patient families healthy during their time at the hospital

Hours of Operation
Monday–Friday 8 AM – 7 PM
Saturday 9 AM – 1 PM
Closed Sunday

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115
Farley building, room 111
Phone: 617-355-6279
Fax: 617-730-1949
ctrfam@childrens.harvard.edu
Using a family-centered care approach, we are dedicated to supporting patient families through their experience at Boston Children’s Hospital. We collaborate with other departments and provide patient families with assistance navigating the hospital, resources, education and information.

Center-based Resources

Accommodations Line
617-919-3450
Assists families in finding accommodations in hotels, short-term rentals, Boston Children’s-owned housing and special accommodations such as the local Ronald McDonald House and Hospitality Homes (host home program)

Call Center
617-355-7599 / 1-800-355-7944
› staffed 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
› facilitates communication between community-based physicians and the hospital
› answers patient/family questions about hospital programs and staff
› directs calls to appropriate hospital programs

Children’s Activity Space
› houses a variety of activities, including books, videos and games

Clothing Closet
› houses donated supplies for patients and families with a clinical referral

Patient Family Computers/Printer, Copy/Fax Machine and Phone
Charging Station and Video Phone
› houses Internet accessible computers for relaxation, work or the creation of Care Pages
› charges a variety of types of phones and houses a video phone for patient family use

Library
› lends books on medical and developmental topics to families of inpatients and staff
› lends children’s and adult books as well as videos and games to hospitalized patients and their families

Playground

Center-based Programs

Accommodations
Parent Sleep Spaces
Booked through the Center for Families, 26 individual parent sleep spaces are located within the hospital for patient families with a patient in an intensive care unit

Patient Family Housing Program
617-919-3450
Provides affordable accommodations for up to 35 families while their children receive the care and treatment they need from Boston Children’s in either an inpatient or ambulatory setting. The Program offers housing at two different locations: the Devon Nicole House and the Yawkey Family Inn. Inquiries and reservations can be made by phone from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bereavement
Keeping Connections
› annual bereavement conference for families

Memorial Service
› annual memorial service to remember patients

Family Partnerships
Family Advisory Council
Parents as advisors; built in focus group to partner with staff and clinicians on anything from policy changes to building renovations to clinical care from a parent perspective

Family to Family
Trained patient/family mentors provide peer support in this short-term intervention. Varies by program, includes both outpatient phone calls and bedside visits (limited)

Family Partners
Patient/family advisors who sit on committees, from short-term workgroups to standing committees, to provide family perspective. Can be for both hospital requests or Family Advisory Council or Teen Advisory Council initiatives

Heart2Heart
Partnersing with the Department of Cardiology, the Center for Families matches high school and college students born with heart defects with patients currently being treated at Boston Children’s in a face-to-face mentoring program for both patients and parents

Teen Program
› Teen Advisory Committee (TAC)
Comprised of teens and young adults between 14 and 21 who are patients (or former patients) of Boston Children’s who voice their thoughts and concerns, develop and practice self-advocacy skills and work towards making the hospital a better place for all teens and young adults
› Teen Projects
Projects include the development of two carts filled with “teen only” activities that are delivered to the bedside of teen patients and the hosting of three annual parties for teen patients and their families