



Free Family Workshops & Parent Pages Newsletter

December 2025

[Read the Parent Pages Newsletter](#)

Parent's Guide: Practical Next Steps

Build on what you learned in *Parent's Guide to Challenging Behaviors* with an interactive session focused on putting those strategies into practice. Get support applying the tools at home, explore additional resources and leave with an actionable plan you can start using right away. For parents of children ages 2–8. (Must have attended *Parent's Guide to Challenging Behaviors*)

Thursday, December 4, 1:30 p.m.

Free virtual workshop, register [here](#)

Parenting Apart, Working Together: Conflict Resolution for Co-Parents Join Dawn Valentine from the Mediation and Conflict Resolution Center for an interactive workshop on practical conflict resolution and collaborative decision-making techniques tailored for co-parents. Ideal for parents sharing custody or navigating a parenting plan who want to strengthen communication and reduce tension. **Monday, December 8, 7 p.m.**

Free Virtual Workshop. Register [here](#)

Enhancing Rituals and Routines with Children Explore why daily rituals and routines matter and how they support your child's growth, development and sense of security. Together, we'll share simple, practical ideas for strengthening connections at home, easing separations and transitions, enriching family moments, and adapting routines to meet each child's needs. Learn new techniques and discover how everyday moments—mealtime, bedtime, playtime, and more—can become meaningful learning opportunities for your child. **Wednesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m.**

Free virtual workshop, register [here](#)

Navigating Howard County Housing Programs Whether you're looking to rent or find affordable housing, this session will guide you through the available options, resources and support systems in Howard County. Learn about different types of housing options, financial assistance programs such as eviction prevention and foreclosure resources and how to navigate the local housing market so you can make informed decisions. **Thursday, December 11, 1:00 p.m. Free Virtual workshop, register [here](#)**

To request this information in an alternate format, or accommodations to participate in these programs, email children@howardcountymd.gov or call the CARE Line, 410-313-CARE(2273) (voice/relay).

Howard County Office of Children and Families

<https://bit.ly/HoCo-FamilyEngagement>



To visit our website and register, scan the QR code

Family Programming

Click on the Family Engagement & Family Support Center

Newsletter

Click on Parent Pages

www.howardcountymd.gov/parentpages

For questions or assistance with registering, call 410-313-2273 (voice/ relay) or email children@howardcountymd.gov

Programming questions, email Lisa Rhodes at lrhodes@howardcountymd.gov

The [Howard County Family Support Center \(FSC\)](#) offers community-based programs for parents and caregivers of children age birth to five. Located at 9790 Patuxent Woods Drive in Columbia, FSC programs highlight child development, parent education and health information. Upcoming programming below. For more information on programming, contact Ashton Sullivan, asullivan@howardcountymd.gov, 410-313-1453 (voice/relay)

View complete Family Support Center calendar [here](#)

Drop-in Play Group: Children and their families are invited to explore and play at our Family Support Center! Parents must stay with their children. This is a great opportunity for children to meet new friends and parents to network!

Wednesday, December 3, 10 – 11a.m. Register [here](#)

Seedlings Nature Program: Play, explore, and connect at our fun-filled, nature-inspired workshop. Enjoy hands-on indoor and outdoor activity stations designed to spark curiosity and bring families together. We'll kick things off with a lively community circle featuring a playful song and fun questions for both kids and grown-ups, dive into a delightful nature-themed story, and wrap up with a sweet closing circle to help little ones wind down. It's a joyful time to laugh, learn, and grow together.

Thursday, December 4:

Session 1: 10:00 – 11 a.m. Register [here](#) OR

Session 2: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Register [here](#)

My Gym Fitness Classes: Structured, age-appropriate classes incorporate fitness, music, dance, puppets, relays, games, gymnastics, sports and other original activities. Children have fun as they exercise and gain strength, balance, coordination, agility, flexibility and social skills while building confidence and self-esteem.

Littles 6 Month – 2.5-Year-olds class: Monday, December 8, 2 – 2:45 p.m. Register [here](#)

Pre-K Class 2.5 – 5-Year-olds class: Monday, December 22, 2 – 2:45 p.m. Register [here](#)

Winter Story Time: Join us for a cozy winter story time! Bundle up and gather around as we dive into enchanting tales of snowflakes and winter wonderlands. This will feature a classic winter story and a fun craft activity to bring the story to life.

Wednesday, December 10, 10 – 11a.m. Register [here](#)

Rufus Puppet Show: Come enjoy a puppet show of the story Rufus! A fast-paced and funny story about acceptance and inclusion with an adorable main character. Presented by Blue Sky Puppets.

Wednesday, December 10, 2-3 p.m. Register [here](#)

Infant Discovery Play: Join us for a morning of tummy time and sensory activities for infants 0-12 months. Babies will explore simple, engaging activities that promote physical and cognitive development, while parents learn ways to continue the fun and growth at home!

Thursday, December 11, 9 – 9:45 a.m. Register [here](#)

Dinner with Dads: This interactive and fun evening will take place over a shared meal, giving fathers a chance to connect with and learn from one another while sharing the joys and challenges of fatherhood in a supportive environment. Fathers will walk away with new strategies to be the best dads they can be—and enjoy some exciting giveaways throughout the evening.

Tuesday December 16, 5:30 – 7 p.m. Register [here](#)

Gingerbread Houses: Come to the Family Support Center for a festive gingerbread house decorating activity! We'll enjoy a winter story and then create our own decorated gingerbread houses.

Session 1: Thursday, December 18, 10 – 11a.m. Register [here](#) OR

Session 2: Thursday, December 18, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Register [here](#)