

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES





Mission

The Department of Social Services strives to ensure that children in Massachusetts are safe from abuse and/or neglect, situations that threaten and conditions that endanger. We provide family-based services to assist parents to take better care of their children:

- We seek to prevent abuse and neglect by promoting safe and stable families. We work to keep families together.
- We provide temporary out-of-home care programs for children who are unable to remain at home, due to unsafe conditions or situations that put children at risk. These programs include foster care, group care and residential programs.
- We provide guidance and support to families until the children in our out-of-home care programs can safely return home.
- When returning home is not possible, we seek an alternate permanent situation for each child, such as adoption, guardianship, or for older teenagers, independent living.

Providing Safety
Establishing Permanency
Encouraging Well-being

Corporate Partnership Program

The Department of Social Services has established a Corporate Partnership Program to work with corporations to advance our foster care services.

We request your involvement in the Corporate Partnership Program, for the good of the children in our care and for the good of the current and future foster parents in your workforce. Corporate partners help us by:

- Encouraging their employees who are foster parents by reimbursing expenses, sponsoring educational and support programs, and providing flexible working arrangements.
- Extending parental benefits to employees who are foster parents.
- Providing information to their employees interested in learning more about the ways they can help out.
- Donating goods for the children in our care.
- Providing direct financial support to the Department of Social Services Kids Fund on behalf of the children of the Commonwealth.

Corporate partners gain stature as socially responsible and caring entities within their local community, throughout the investment community, and across the Commonwealth.

The Need

The Department of Social Services' programs are crucial to the welfare and safety of young people in the Commonwealth. We are constantly in search of families and individuals who are willing to help foster children on a short or long term basis.

- On any given day in Massachusetts, the Department of Social Services helps 40,000 children.
- More than 10,000 children live in foster care.
- An additional 13 children need placement each day.

As a corporate partner, you can provide your employees with information about the many ways to help children in foster care. There are multiple opportunities available to help the children who are in our care:

- Our most critical need is for short and long-term foster parents.
- We need adoptive parents for older children or sibling groups.
- We need Volunteer Case Reviewers, who commit just three hours each month.

You can offer employee incentives for those who participate in our programs by:

- Allowing foster parents time to attend training classes that are sponsored by the Department of Social Services.
- Extending to foster parents the family benefits that your firm provides for birth and/or adoptive families.



Your Role

Your company, as a corporate partner of the Department of Social Services gains goodwill and stature. We encourage you to discuss your corporation's participation in this program with your counterparts at other companies.

- Your corporation is recognized as one of the most supportive, forward-thinking and community-focused employers in Massachusetts.
- You attract and retain caring and qualified people in your workforce.
- You build mutually beneficial relationships with public and private community partners who provide supportive or synergistic services to those you offer.
- Your efforts will help us expand our program and enhance co-sponsorship opportunities for your corporation's cost-effective participation in this important program.

As a corporate partner, you are a crucial participant in a program that helps the Department of Social Services:

- Maintain an effective, coordinated, integrated and cost-efficient system of substitute care, which assures the most appropriate placement for a child who is in our care or custody.
- Attract interested and qualified care providers.
- Retain quality care givers.

- Enable timely placement of children in need in good homes.
- Provide supportive services to families to help them to help the children in their care.

Your participation in our Corporate Partnership Program will enhance community involvement to address the needs of the children in the Commonwealth. You demonstrate your commitment to the Massachusetts community.

Our Request

Please become a corporate partner of the Department of Social Services. Our request is low cost, with much to gain. Your involvement provides a valuable community service and strengthens your business ties with key constituents.

We ask for your help.

We appreciate your time.

Take the first step in partnership by calling 1-800-KIDS-508 or visit us on the web at: www.dsskids.org.

You can help us change a future, One child at a time!





**Massachusetts Department of Social Services
Foster and Adoptive Care Unit
Corporate Partnership Initiative**

24 Farnsworth Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

1-800-KIDS-508
www.dsskids.org



Implied Association – The Department of Social Services does not require or request a Corporate Partnership Company to endorse the Department of Social Services or its services. Your involvement as a Corporate Partnership Company does not imply endorsement of the Department of Social Services or its services.

Massachusetts Department of Social Services and
Massachusetts Corporations together
Caring for kids