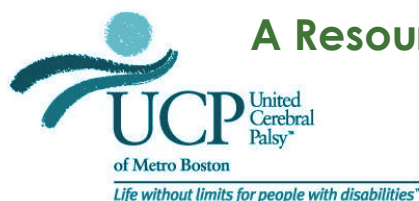


# FAMILY SUPPORT NEWSLETTER



A Resource for Individuals with Disabilities & Their Families

71 Arsenal Street Watertown, MA 02472

Fall Edition  
www.ucpboston.org  
Facebook.com/ucpboston  
Twitter.com/ucpboston

## UPDATES FROM FAMILY SUPPORT

Welcome to our new Family Support Newsletter which will bring you current trends and information for individuals with disabilities and their families. Family Support is here to assist you with, Information and Referral, Financial Assistance, Recreation, Advocacy and Lecture Series and Workshops. Feel free to contact Family Support at tel: 617.600.2450 or email [swasserman@ucpboston.org](mailto:swasserman@ucpboston.org).

## UCP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

UCP of MetroBoston will award a \$1,000 scholarship to an outstanding college bound high school senior, or current college undergraduate/graduate student, residing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Students must have a medical diagnosis of CP.



"... I just graduated UMass Lowell and want to thank you for all of your support. Now it's time to give back." - Tim

### CAMPERSHIP

Camp scholarships will be available to children and adults with Cerebral Palsy attending summer camp during the 2017 summer months! Camperships range from \$200 - \$500 per camper!

"My daughter went to an adaptive summer camp for 2 weeks last year and learned how to swim! This wouldn't have been possible without a campership from UCP. Thank you UCP of MetroBoston!" - Beth's Mom

College and Campership Applications will be available on our website, [www.ucpboston.org](http://www.ucpboston.org), after January 1, 2017. Best of luck to all applicants!

### BELLOWS

The Bellows Scholarship is available throughout the year for individuals with a diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy in need of assistive technology. Applications are available online at [www.ucpboston.org](http://www.ucpboston.org).

"Thank you! Thank you!" - Anonymous

## UCP RECREATION PROGRAM

UCP is expanding its Recreation Program which will offer entertaining, adaptive activities to young and old! You will have the opportunity to enroll in programs such as: 'Art by Design', 'The Cooking Club' and Winter Workshops like a 'Pamper Me Spa Party' or 'March Madness - Ready, Set, Slam Dunk!' In the mood to party? Join us at one of our After-Hour Social Events, i.e. New Year's Ball, Valentine's Social or St. Patty's Celebration. A Children's Carnival is in the planning stages for June. Also, in the planning stage are lectures for you from leading authorities in the field of Cerebral Palsy. For more information regarding these programs go to: [www.ucpboston.org](http://www.ucpboston.org). Also, watch your mail/email this coming December for our Recreation Brochure listing all course offerings.

## MATCH UP BUDDY PROGRAM

UCP is seeking individuals to participate in its "Match-Up Buddy Program"! As a Buddy, you will not only become a friend and mentor to an individual with a disability, but an invaluable member of his or her life. You will provide companionship and support to a person who might not otherwise have the opportunity to have one-on-one time with a friend.

Are you looking for a friend to join you shopping, playing games, or just hanging out? "Match-Up" has volunteers just for you!



For more information, please contact Sheri by email: [swasserman@ucpboston.org](mailto:swasserman@ucpboston.org) or call: 617-600-2450.



## RESOURCES

### DISABILITY EVENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS

[www.spedchildmass.com](http://www.spedchildmass.com) is a helpful website created to help you find creative programs and services for children and teens with disabilities. This website is a great resource of listings of activities such as recreational events and workshops for children and adults.

### ACCESS RECREATION BOSTON

Access Recreation Boston is an alliance of organizations who are committed to improving recreation opportunities for people with disabilities in the greater Boston area. In order to achieve this goal, Access Recreation Boston expands community awareness and promotes collaboration between individuals. Visit Access Recreation Boston at [www.accessrec.org](http://www.accessrec.org) for more information and current recreational offerings.

### POSSIBILITIES & PACER CENTER

When your child is diagnosed with a disability, it can be overwhelming. Families are faced with financial challenges and urgent situations. A great resource is the Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights (PACER) Center. The program helps you manage your finances and provides training, information, and assistance to children with all disabilities, ages birth to 26.

To learn more about this program visit [www.pacer.org/publications/possibilities](http://www.pacer.org/publications/possibilities).



## VOCALID

UCP is proud to partner with VocaliD which ensures every voice is heard by bringing speaking machines to life. VocaliD builds personalized digital voices for those with any form of vocal impairment. This creates social connection, increases independence and quality of life, and improves educational resources. For more information, please visit [www.vocalid.co](http://www.vocalid.co).

## APPLYING TO COLLEGE?

It is never too early to begin researching for financial assistance for college. There are some very helpful website which help students with disabilities prepare for their college experience, prepared by the U.S. Department of Education.

One site, [www.bestcolleges.com/resources/-disabled-students](http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/-disabled-students) provides an overview of all college resources for students with disabilities, breaking down the disability to that which matches the student the best:

- Campus Life
- Housing
- Resources
- Visual Impairment
- Physical Disabilities
- Dyslexia
- ADHD



Another excellent website is: [www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition) which reviews a 'Student Rights and Responsibilities.' And finally, [www.onlineschools.org/financial-aid/-disabilities](http://www.onlineschools.org/financial-aid/-disabilities) is a great website which offers information regarding financial assistance.

## THE CARING FORCE

The Caring Force, a human services advocacy movement, assists in empowering a diverse group of individuals who want to see a stronger human services sector in Massachusetts. The movement, one of the first organizations like this in the country, is made up of members of the community from all walks of life, who want to engage and strengthen dialogue to support people with disabilities.

This past October, The Caring Force held their annual "Broadcast Your Love of Human Services Selfie Contest". We are proud to announce that we came in 1<sup>st</sup> Place!

Log on to: <http://www.thecaringforce.org> and become a member of this important movement.

