



March 2022

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## Dear Friends of South Shore Support Services,

South Shore Support Services is excited to announce we have expanded our residential services to include three new homes in Cohasset and brought on Maura Watson as our residential director. Maura will help us continue to focus on our core values throughout our new and existing homes. Our focus will continue to be instilling a strong sense of belonging that comes from being a valued member of the home and community. We continue to work diligently to ensure residents have the skills and support they need to maximize their independence. We do this by providing strategies to minimize risks/barriers and promote good decision making. We continuously strive to make sure residents have access to opportunities that build relationships and choice in what they are involved in. We feel confident that with Maura's values and experience, along with consistent feedback solicited from our residents/staff, we will continue to evolve our person-centered services to create an optimal living environment and sense of community.

[donate today](#)

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## Save the Date for our Spring Soiree Friday, May 20, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM



South Shore Support Services invites you to participate in our Spring Soiree. The Soiree will be held on Friday, May 20th, at the Cohasset Lightkeepers, from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. What makes this evening truly magical is that it is centered around the individuals we serve. You will be amazed by our budding chefs, enthusiastic greeters, smiling servers, talented artists, and gardening aficionados. They look forward to this event so they can mingle with our guests and display their skills and talents.

## ***Opportunities for Support***

### ***Community Sponsor***

**\$3000**

- VIP Table ( 6 tickets) to the Spring Soiree- (complimentary bottle of Prosecco, a charcuterie board, and dessert tray)
- Banner displayed at the Spring Soiree
- Listed as a Community Sponsor on website, newsletter and all marketing and post event publications
- Photo opportunity with South Shore Support members for mutual publication in print and on social media .
- Speaking opportunity at the Spring Soiree

### ***Leadership Sponsor***

**\$1000**

- VIP Table ( 6 tickets) to the Spring Soiree (complimentary bottle of Prosecco, a charcuterie board, and dessert tray)
- Listed as Leadership Sponsor on website, newsletter, and all marketing and post event publications (based on print deadline)
- Name recognition the evening of the Spring Soiree Event

### ***Empowerment Sponsor***

**\$500**

- Four complimentary tickets to the Spring Soiree
- Listed as Empowerment Sponsor on website and all event marketing and post event publications ( based on print deadline for event)

### ***Friendship Sponsor***

**\$300**

- Two complimentary tickets to Spring Soiree
- Listed as a Friendship Sponsor on website and all post event communication

Tickets to the Spring Soiree will be on sale for \$75 starting on April 18th

For more information on the Spring Soiree and Sponsorships, please e-mail [fundraising@soshoresupport.org](mailto:fundraising@soshoresupport.org)

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## **Welcome Elm Street!**

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South Shore Support Services is delighted to welcome the ladies and gentlemen from Elm Street in Cohasset to our residential group. The homes transferred in November, and everyone is enjoying getting to know each other. We all truly appreciate the long-term dedicated staff who stayed on and joined our team. The group is busy planning new activities and experiences for the coming year.

## Applying for SNAP Benefits

A top Baker administration official said Tuesday, February 14, that starting in July, residents applying online to enroll in the state's Medicaid program can also request to have their information transmitted to another department to kick off an application for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits. Anti-poverty and public health advocates who have warned about the "SNAP gap" touted the shift as a major victory and pointed to fiscal 2022 state budget language that required the Baker administration to implement the change by December 1, 2021. "The administration's announcement is an important step toward a true common application and will have a significant impact on hunger and food insecurity in our state," said Jamie Klufts, director of communications and strategic initiative for the National Association of Social Workers -MA Chapter.

The Massachusetts Law Reform Institute estimated last year that 600,000 MassHealth recipients likely qualify for SNAP benefits but are not receiving the federally funded, state-administered food aid. Reform supporters have long called for the state to launch a common application platform allowing those in need to seek any available public benefits with one submission. While Massachusetts Law Reform Institute Senior Policy Advocate Patricia Baker praised the administration's latest step, she said more work should be done to remove "bureaucratic obstacles" that have been in place "for too long."

"We are deeply grateful to both the Massachusetts Legislature and the Baker administration for their efforts to break down silos and allow healthcare applicants the right to apply for nutrition benefits at the same time," Baker said. "It's time to finish the job, break down the remaining barriers with a simple, accessible common application for all means-tested benefits available to our lowest income households."

## Applying for a Housing Subsidy



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There are both project-based subsidies (the voucher belongs to the building) and mobile vouchers (the voucher follows the participant). For the mobile component, the voucher value is a set amount. This amount is determined by several factors: the tenant's income, household size, and geography. The participant pays the difference between the value of the voucher and what the landlord charges for rent. In most cases, the participant pays 30% of income and the voucher covers the remaining rent amount. Much of the program's recent growth has been in vouchers targeted to homeless families in motels or shelters; however, when other existing voucher holders leave the program, their vouchers are offered to eligible applicants on local waiting lists. Waitlists often prioritize adults with disabilities. These lists can be quite lengthy due to the great demand. It is important to get on the waiting list and the application can now be accessed online through the Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public Housing (CHAMP) application process.

CHAMP is the website where you can apply for the Massachusetts state-aided public housing program and the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP). Through the online system, this website lets you submit your application to one or more housing authorities, instead of having to mail or hand deliver an application to each housing authority separately. You can also keep your application information up to date on this website as it changes. This will ensure that housing authorities know how to contact you.

If you have an active application at one or more local housing authorities, you can find it on this website and manage it on this website. Do not file a new application. Once you find your existing application on the website, you can make changes such as updating contact information and adding or removing your applications to housing authorities. Our Family Support Center is available to help you complete the application. **Please email [rmccorkle@soshoresupport.org](mailto:rmccorkle@soshoresupport.org) for assistance with the application.**

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[Apply for housing](#)

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Our Family Support Center would like to thank all the individuals and families for their recent donations. We are very grateful for the funding that allowed us to purchase

items for our fitness classes, cooking and baking classes, and items for our life skills classes. A very special thank you to South Shore Support Services' Board of Directors for all their hard work. Coming soon-an open house to showcase our Determination Studio.



[See our Calendar](#)

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## Staff Highlight - Maura Watson, Residential Director



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## Employment Opportunities

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**Vocational Community Support Advocate - Hingham and Cohasset:** The Vocational/Community Support Advocate (VCSA) assures a safe and caring environment for the Launch participants during program activities. The VCSA will effectively implement the Community Based Day Supports (CDBS) and Vocational curriculums that address the goals and visions of the participant's individual support plan. The VCSA will provide support, assistance, and instruction to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in areas that empower their growth toward self-sufficiency and independence in the workplace and community. The VCSA is a role model for Launch Program participants, parents/guardians, community members, volunteers, and staff in presenting a positive and cooperative attitude.

**Schedule:** Monday through Friday 7:30am to 3:30pm

**Residential Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse:** The RN and LPN will provide compassionate nursing care to adults with developmental, intellectual, and/or physical disabilities in a supervised residential setting. The RN/LPN will monitor resident's health status and support/provide opportunities for skill building in a way that promotes growth, independence, dignity, and a meaningful life.

**Schedule:** Flexible. Part-time and full-time opportunities available.

**Individual Support Case Manager – Weymouth area:** The Individual Support Case Manager supports the people we serve in their home and in the community. You will work as a member of the team to support the individuals we serve to live independently in the community. You will assist individuals with tasks such as, banking, grocery shopping, budgeting, paying bills, planning activities and vacations, and managing healthcare. You will advocate and support every individual in exercising human rights.

**Schedule:** Varies based on the needs of person served. Typically, Monday through Friday, potential for evening hours.

**Residential Support Workers – Cohasset, Weymouth, Holbrook, Milton, Abington:** The Residential Support Worker will work directly with individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities to teach, assist, and facilitate choices in their residences and within their community. These dedicated staff members provide support in the areas including, but not limited to; personal finance, van transportation, assistance with activities of daily living, and helping individuals achieve their ISP goals.

**Schedule:** All shifts available – daytime, evening, and overnight. Per diem opportunities are available.

**Family Support Case Manager:** The Family Support Case Manager is a liaison between the Department of Developmental Services and the families we serve. The Family Support Case Manager will help develop a family support plan, and complete assessments to determine the needs of a family, both in the home and the community. The Family Support Case Manager will lead the implementation of the family support plan as well as assist the family in applying for MassHealth, Social Security, food stamps, and other public benefits. The Family Support Case Manager will also attend meetings and advocate on behalf of the family.

**Schedule:** Sunday-Thursday: flexible hours between 8am - 8pm to meet the needs of the families.

**Behavior Technician:** The Behavior Technician provides community and/or in-home direct services to individuals with various developmental disabilities. Working one on one with the individual, the Behavior Technician will help to increase the individual's community opportunities, life skills, self-care skills, and safety skills, along with other skills identified by the family. The Behavior Technician will help the individual reach their goals and work toward independence, with the overall goal of positively impacting the individual's quality of life.

**Schedule:** Saturday 9:30AM – 2:00PM and/or 2:30PM -7:00PM

**Individual Community Connector – Plymouth area:** The Individual Community Connector supports individuals we serve in the community. They will provide daily support while encouraging independence and choice to meet their personal goals.

**Schedule:** Various shifts available. Part-time and full-time opportunities available.

**Interested candidates should e-mail Jenni Gunnarson at [jgunnarson@soshoresupport.org](mailto:jgunnarson@soshoresupport.org) for an application**

Thanks for reading!

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