



inspire

Fostering the Future

Dear Friends,

Over the summer, many of us read with great interest media reports about the challenges in the foster care system. And, I am certain, that you, like me, agree that the Commonwealth deserves to have an effective child welfare system that keeps children safe, stabilizes families struggling with poverty, addiction, or domestic violence, and, when needed, places a child with a nurturing and supported foster family.

Through MSPCC's work with foster families, I understand the valuable role foster parents play in the lives of children in care and why it is so important to continue to improve and enhance the foster care system. I also see a real commitment to this work. The Baker Administration and legislative leaders deserve credit for investing in the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and for their commitment to significant, meaningful reforms - including how we support parents, many of whom are overwhelmed by generational poverty, substance use and addiction, or lack of childcare. While much is being done to meet the needs of today's foster parents, systemic change does not happen overnight, nor does the responsibility rest solely with the DCF. A comprehensive approach engages many stakeholders, and reaches deep into communities to seek solutions that promote healthy, thriving families.

This summer, thanks to the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation, I had the good fortune of enjoying Canobie Lake Park with foster families from the Northeast region of Massachusetts. More than 50 foster children enjoyed a day of rides and treats with several members of the team. I was surrounded by children having a once-in-a-lifetime experience of riding the flume and teacups with a Celtics player and loving every minute of it. At the same time, it was hard not to be inspired by the care and commitment of the foster parents. The park was filled with foster, adoptive, and kinship mothers and fathers who had changed their own lives forever to open their homes and, more importantly, their hearts for these children.

Finally, one more word about foster families. Foster parents volunteer to care for a child, helping them heal, providing stability and teaching them skills. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to these families. And we need more of them. Every child deserves a safe home with a loving family. Collectively, that is a responsibility that all of us share.

Sincerely,

Mary McGeown
Executive Director



**Massachusetts Society
for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Children**

Welcome to the Board: Kristin Francisco



Kristin is the Assurance Leader for the Northeast Market of PwC. Prior to taking on this role, Kristin was the assurance leader for PwC's alternative asset management practice in Boston. Kristin has led the firm's Asset Management Learning and Education Programs, which included developing and teaching numerous industry-specific courses to managers, seniors, and associates. Until 2014, Kristin also led the Northeast Women's Partner Group at PwC, where she oversaw programs and activities aimed at attracting, retaining, and empowering future women leaders within the firm. Kristin was one of the 2011 recipients of the Massachusetts Society of CPAs Women to Watch award for making significant contributions to the accounting profession, the community, and for demonstrating characteristics that enable women to become leaders in the profession. Kristin graduated from Boston College with a B.S. in accounting, and is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants.

When asked why she was choosing to support MSPCC, Kristin said, **"The mission of MSPCC aligns with something I am most passionate about – which is being a mom to three fabulous children. I know how important it is to advocate for my family, however it is even more crucial to speak for those children who may not have the same support that I grew up with or that my children experience."**

Stuart Rose



Stuart is a partner at Mirus Capital. An investment banker since 2005, Stuart provides M&A and corporate advisory solutions to multi-channel marketers, consumer goods, manufacturers, distributors, and business services. He is a Registered Securities Representative and holds Series 62, 63, and 79 FINRA licenses. Prior to his career in investment banking, Stuart was a senior executive with several leading retailers and direct marketers. Stuart taught direct marketing at Bentley College. He is active in his synagogue, a member of the finance committee of the Schwartz Center, and an Advisory Board member of the Lyric Stage. He graduated from Brandeis University, magna cum laude, with a BA in Economics and Philosophy. Stuart holds an MBA from Harvard University.

When asked why he was choosing to support MSPCC, Stuart said **"I am getting involved because MSPCC's mission and work goes to the heart of our needs as a community. We must care for our children and provide them with safe, loving homes and environments. Furthermore, the work MSPCC is embarking on - to proactively work with young mothers, families, communities and the Commonwealth to reduce stressors on young children – has a real possibility of bending the curve with regards to future issues."**

Meet the rest of MSPCC's Board of Advisors at mspcc.org/board-of-advisors

Meet the MSPCC's Young Professionals Board

This September, MSPCC's Young Professionals Board met for their first volunteer activity, making fleece tie blankets for foster children. The Young Professionals Board is an association of individuals in the early stages of their careers with a strong dedication to the work of MSPCC. These young professionals bring an array of areas of expertise to the group, including business, government, philanthropy, the nonprofit sector, community leadership, and activism. New members are always welcome.

Learn more at: mspcc.org/ypb





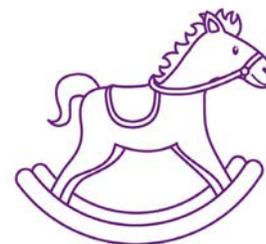
GIVE THE CHILDREN OF MSPCC A VERY SPECIAL HOLIDAY SEASON !

Each year, MSPCC reaches out to supporters for holiday toys and clothes for the children and families we serve. This December, we are collecting children's toys, books, and other items listed below for delivery on or before December 16th. You can also visit our Amazon wish list at <https://amzn.to/2Nq4rUW> to purchase a gift to be delivered directly to our Boston office. Gifts will then be delivered to families in need.

Wishlist Items we need:

- Coats and other winter gear
- Diapers and formula
- Ethnic dolls
- Items for teens (cosmetics, headphones, etc.)
- Sports apparel and equipment
- Gift cards
- Arts and Crafts
- Legos

All donations can be delivered to 3815 Washington Street, Suite #2, Boston MA, 02130 between 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday. For more information, please contact Emily DiCarlo, Development Associate, at 617-587-1526 or edicarlo@mspcc.org.



Because of you, in 2019...



This year, 1,421 families learned new skills to support their children's needs through our Family Counseling services, including through therapeutic mentors, family supports training, and many more clinical programs.

761 young, first-time parents learned to create stable, nurturing environments for their children in MSPCC's Healthy Families™, a program of the Children's Trust.



13,150 foster, kinship, and adoptive parents participated in trainings, support groups, or coaching to better understand and respond to the needs of children in their care, victimized by abuse or neglect.

This summer, fifty-two foster and adoptive children were treated to a fun day at Canobie Lake Park by the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation. Celtics players Carsen Edwards, Tacko Fall, and Grant Williams joined MSPCC's kids on the rides before sitting down to lunch and entertainment.

Thank you to Canobie Lake Park, the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation, and their staff members who made this day so magical for the children of MSPCC.



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Locations

Boston

3815 Washington Street #2
Boston, MA 02130
617.983.5800

Holyoke

9 Sullivan Road
Holyoke, MA 01040
413.532.9446

Lawrence

15 Union Street
Building E, Suite 115
Lawrence, MA 01840
978.682.9222

Lowell

151 Warren Street
Lowell, MA 01852
978.937.3087

Worcester

108 Belmont Street
Worcester, MA 01602
508.753.2967

MSPCC Board of Advisors

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Invest in MSPCC Through the Mary Ellen Society

The Mary Ellen Society honors supporters whose generosity via bequests or life income gifts ensures MSPCC's work will continue for years to come. Mary Ellen Society members receive invitations to all MSPCC events and donor appreciation gatherings.

If you have included MSPCC in your estate plans, or would like to learn more, please contact Melanie Lima, Director of Development, at 617-587-1587, or via email at mlima@mspcc.org.

ARE YOU UP-TO-DATE ON THE STATE OF THE CHILD?

Sign up for MSPCC's e-newsletter to hear the latest news. Stay informed on advocacy efforts affecting children and ways you can help, learn how your support has changed the lives of our clients in various programs, and stay updated on what is happening with children in Massachusetts with news and coverage from MSPCC. Sign up at: mspcc.org/news

TIME TO GIVE BACK Winter 2019

MSPCC is collecting donations in an effort to provide a Holiday feast to more than 200 of our families in need. We are looking for donations of gift cards, cash, and non-perishable food items. Learn how you can help at mspcc.org/holiday-feast or contact Julie Sheflin at jsheflin@mspcc.org.

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