

Parents of Children with Disabilities

did you know...

you may be eligible to receive a tax-free stipend?

Adult Family Care (AFC) is a MassHealth-funded program intended for individuals with disabilities who are unable to safely live alone. Participants must need cueing and supervision or assistance from a caregiver with at least one aspect of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, toileting, walking or transferring.

Caregivers can be family members or non-family members, but they cannot be the legal guardian. Oftentimes, one parent will become the guardian when their child turns 18 and the other parent will become the AFC caregiver. Although parents are not eligible to be caregivers until their child turns 18, another family member, such as a grandparent, sibling or aunt, may be eligible to be the caregiver for an individual 16 or 17 years of age.

Caregivers receive a tax-free stipend that can amount to approximately \$25-\$50 per day, depending on the level of care provided. The caregiver must reside with the individual and accept responsibility for their care. Additionally, the AFC registered nurse and care manager provide ongoing support, education and advocacy. Caregivers are also eligible for up to 14 days of paid respite time each calendar year.

Why does MassHealth pay families for AFC? By paying for AFC, MassHealth allows individuals to be cared for by their loved-ones at home, rather than paying for much more costly group residential homes or nursing facilities. Therefore, AFC is actually a cost saving measure for the state.

For more information and to see if you are eligible for this **FREE** service, contact:

Barbara Dunker, RN

AFC Program Director

Opportunities for Inclusion

56 Chestnut Street,

Waltham, MA 02453

781-899-1344 x 4710



**OPPORTUNITIES
for INCLUSION**

A New Name and a Bright Future

OppsforInclusion.org



The Arc

Opportunities for Inclusion is an
affiliated chapter of The Arc and
The Arc of Massachusetts.