



# Family Empowerment

a Pathlight program

SUPPORT

RESOURCES

INFORMATION

Family Empowerment believes that information is power. The best way to build a rich and full life for our children as they live and grow in their communities, is to become informed of all the possibilities. We believe it is the right of every individual to dream of the life they would like to live and have the tools to make that dream a reality. We believe that parents and professionals are stronger and able to create change on a much larger scale, when we join together.



## Information & Resources or...where to start

- Information and resource guidance
- Individualized guidance for families eligible for Department of Developmental Services to help navigate the maze of options
- Multimedia resource library featuring a wide variety of special needs topics
- Contacts at local and state networks for general and disability specific information
- Other funding resources for programs or services
- Local and state events posted in our newsletter, email updates, and Facebook page

## Activities

We partner with Whole Children to offer movie nights, dances, outings and special events for children, adults and families.



## About Family Empowerment

Family Empowerment is the Family Support Center for Franklin and Hampshire County and is funded by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Pathlight, and grants.

Whether you are caring for a preschooler, a school-age child, a teenager in transition years, or an adult at any life stage, we will help you find state and local resources to develop a unique plan of action and a community supportive of your needs. We've been there. We can help.

Life can be tough,  
but so are you.

## Trainings/Workshops/Webinars on topics across the lifespan

Free workshops/webinars are offered monthly during the school year on:

- IEP (and ISP) optimization and tools to maximize relationships with school and agency partners
- Transition strategies that help teenagers move toward their dream life
- Understanding SSI and government assistance benefits
- Adult living options
- The employment picture
- Guardianship and alternatives
- Legislative changes that impact those with special needs
- Special needs trusts and sustaining financial stability
- Creating friendships and community relationships
- Annual Transition Fair
- Biannual Housing Fair



## Contact Us

**Family Empowerment  
Inclusive Community Center**  
41 Russell Street  
Hadley, MA 01035  
413-585-8010

**100 Munson Street  
Greenfield, MA 01301  
413-585-8010**

[www.pathlightgroup.org](http://www.pathlightgroup.org)

## Who We Are

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## Need Someone to Listen?

The process of advocating for a loved one with a disability can take a toll on our health, friendships, and energy. We are here to listen when you just need to talk something through and are feeling isolated.

**Give us a call!**



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## About Pathlight

### Family Empowerment is a Pathlight program

Pathlight is a 501(c)3 non-profit Massachusetts corporation with offices in Pittsfield, Springfield, Greenfield, Easthampton, and Hadley. It was founded in 1952 by five mothers of children with developmental disabilities.

The majority of Pathlight's revenue comes through state agencies, including the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services and the Massachusetts Department of Medical Assistance. Pathlight also raises money from a broad network of generous donors. We gratefully accept support from individuals, businesses, and foundations.