

# FamilyMatters

A JAFCO Support Network

[familymattersnetwork.org](http://familymattersnetwork.org)

At  
your  
side.

**When families find the courage to open up and ask for help, we are there. We are at your side.**

**FamilyMatters provides intensive, highly personalized support services to families in times of crisis, trauma or challenging life transitions. We focus on strengthening and empowering families to address and overcome challenges that are impacting their overall level of functioning.**



“Our home is full of laughter and joy. Knowing that FamilyMatters is a part of our lives gives us comfort.”

FamilyMatters Participant,  
Family Strengthening Program

### Services

FamilyMatters offers specialized case management and support services to assist families in times of crisis in Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

We serve families who are facing the impact of trauma and challenges including: mental health and substance abuse issues, divorce and custody issues, grandparents or relatives caring for children, single parenthood, or raising children with special needs. We focus on strengthening and empowering families to overcome these challenges. We currently offer the following programs:

Family  
Strengthening  
Program

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SibShops™:  
The Sibling  
Support Project

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Parent & Relative  
Caregiver Support  
Groups

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Supervised  
Visitation Program





# Empowering Families

Our participants can use our services as often and for as long as they need them.

## Family Strengthening Program

Free case management services to support families in times of crisis.

- Our master's level social workers offer an immediate response to families, scheduling intakes within 24 hours of receiving a referral.
- After completing the initial intake, all services are offered in the family's home for convenience and accessibility.
- Each family receives a personalized plan based on their unique needs.
- Our social workers can work with families as often and as long as necessary without restriction or limitation.
- This program targets families who have children living in the home. The parent/relative must be the legal guardian of the child to consent to services.
- We proudly serve families regardless of their religious or cultural affiliation.

### We serve families:

with a parent or child with a mental health diagnosis

with a child with special needs

facing complicated divorce or custody issues

with grandparents or relatives caring for a child

at-risk or currently involved with Child Protective Services

with a single parent

with a parent or family member struggling with addiction

### We support families in the following ways:

Guiding families through difficult transitions

Improving access to services by linking families to needed services and resources

Navigating complex systems to ensure a child's needs are met

Advocating for family's needs in school and court settings

Accompanying families to appointments and assisting with complicated paperwork

Coordinating care by collaborating with all involved providers

Increasing safety in the home through parenting support and planning

24-hour availability to active participants to address crises



Additional Services

# SibShops™: The Sibling Support Project

A safe space for siblings of children with developmental disabilities to talk about their feelings.

This group offers opportunities for siblings to gain support and meet new friends in a safe and fun environment. Through group activities, children are able to understand more about disabilities and learn how they can have a more meaningful relationship with their sibling.



**We serve:**  
siblings of a child  
with special needs



# Parent & Relative Caregiver Support

An opportunity for parents and relative caregivers to share their feelings, fears, and experiences.

This group is a safe space for parents and relative caregivers of children with special needs. Topics range from self-care to sibling dynamics to preparing for your child's future. Sessions end with mindfulness relaxation exercises.



**We serve families:**  
with a child with  
special needs  
with grandparents  
or relatives caring  
for a child  
with a single parent

# Supervised Visitation Program

Scheduled, monitored visits between a child and a non-custodial parent or family member.

We provide a safe and structured environment and ensure that all guidelines set by the court or referring agency are followed. Each visit is supervised by a master's level social worker at an hourly charge with sliding scale available. Reports can be provided to the court upon request.



**We serve families:**  
facing complicated  
divorce or custody  
issues  
at-risk or currently  
involved with  
Child Protective  
Services

# How to Support FamilyMatters

FamilyMatters is strengthened by the support of our community. Together, we can create a better life for children and their families.

## Volunteer

Assist our staff with important tasks, encourage community support for FamilyMatters and aid in raising much needed financial and in-kind support.

Additional ways to volunteer include joining an event committee, planning a new event or hosting a parlor meeting.

We offer a wide range of volunteer opportunities to meet varied time schedules and backgrounds. Providing pro-bono services in legal, medical, dental, therapy, or tutoring fields are a great way to get involved!

Contact our office to find out other ways that you can join our community and volunteer with FamilyMatters.



**For more information about future events or to make a donation to FamilyMatters, visit [familymattersnetwork.org](http://familymattersnetwork.org) or call 610 525 1040.**

## Join the Family

The Godparent Circle was created to ensure that each child will enjoy a wonderful life filled with every opportunity. Godparents spiritually “adopt” the children we serve to ensure that they have everything they need.

Godparents make a commitment to support a child with a gift of \$1,800 a year, for ten years.

Contact our office to get more information about how you can save the lives of children who need your protection.

“FamilyMatters was so helpful as I navigated the major life chaos that happened to my family. I’m so grateful for their services and support.”

FamilyMatters Participant,  
Family Strengthening Program





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familymattersnetwork.org



FamilyMatters is an expansion of JAFCO (Jewish Adoption and Family Care Options), a non-profit organization established in 1992 in South Florida with the initial mission of providing foster and adoptive homes to abused and neglected children. In 2014, JAFCO expanded its intensive Family Strengthening program to the children and families of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey without regard to race, color, national origin or religion. **Because... every FamilyMatters.**

## Professional Affiliations, Licensure and Partners



Ministry of Labor,  
Social Affairs and Social Services  
State of Israel

The Jewish Disability Inclusion Consortium of Greater Philadelphia  
Philadelphia Jewish Domestic Violence Resource Consortium