



MCF
maryland coalition of families

Family Focus

Celebrate Pride with Us: Embracing Diversity and Family Unity!

June is Pride Month, a time to honor the vibrant diversity of the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate love in all its forms. At Maryland Coalition of Families, we believe that every family is unique and beautiful, and we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all families feel supported and valued.



Join us this month as we participate in Pride events, share inspiring stories, and provide resources for families navigating their journeys. Whether you're an LGBTQ+ parent, have an LGBTQ+ child, or are an ally, we welcome you to celebrate with us and strengthen our bonds of love and understanding.

Let's stand together, celebrate our differences, and continue building a world where every family thrives. Happy Pride Month from all of us at MCF!

Stay connected with our upcoming events and support resources by following us on social media and visiting our website. Together, we can make a difference.

[Maryland Pride Events](#)

Maryland's Good Samaritan Law: Protecting Those Who Help

Maryland's Good Samaritan Law, also known as the Good Sam Law, is designed to protect

individuals who assist in an emergency involving an alcohol or drug-related overdose.

This law encourages anyone, regardless of age, to call 911 when they witness a medical emergency caused by drugs and/or alcohol, without fear of arrest or prosecution for:

- Possessing or using a controlled dangerous substance
- Possessing or using drug paraphernalia
- Providing alcohol to minors

Calling 911 will NOT affect your parole or probation status. The Good Samaritan Law also extends protection to the person experiencing the overdose from these same charges.

However, the law does not protect those who witness the emergency but do not assist, nor does it protect against arrest for open warrants or other unrelated crimes.

Maryland Coalition of Families is dedicated to educating families, businesses, and communities across the state about Maryland's Good Samaritan Law. We also facilitate Naloxone training sessions to equip individuals with the skills to respond effectively to overdose emergencies.

Contact us for more information or visit our website below. Together, we can save lives.



[Learn More Here](#)



MCF's Executive Director **Christi Green** recorded this video to share her lived experience and highlight how her nephew's life could have been saved if those around him were aware of the Good Samaritan Law when Kameron was experiencing a drug overdose. We hope you will take a moment to listen to her story.

[Watch Video](#)

**2024 Ginger Rosela
Spirit Award Winner:
Congratulations
Cynthia Kirk!**

In May 2020, Maryland Coalition of Families mourned the loss of Ginger Rosela, a founding member of our substance use family peer support program and a relentless advocate for individuals with substance use disorders. Ginger played a pivotal role in the passage of Maryland's Good Samaritan Law, a measure that could have saved her son's life.

To honor Ginger's memory and dedication, MCF annually recognizes a Family Peer Support Specialist who exemplifies her spirit and commitment. Nominees and winners are selected by their peers, ensuring that the award reflects the true essence of family peer support.



At our June all-staff gathering, we proudly bestowed the Ginger Rosela Spirit Award upon **Cynthia Kirk**, a Family Peer Support Specialist in Howard County for the past 17 years. Cynthia is cherished by the families in her community for her unwavering support and dedication.

Cynthia's commitment to her families and her community embodies the very best of family peer support and the spirit of the Ginger Rosela Spirit Award. Congratulations, Cynthia, and thank you for all that you do!

Donate the Gift of Hope

We are dedicated to providing free family peer support services to those in need. Our mission is to offer compassionate, understanding, and practical help to families facing challenging times. Whether it's through 1:1 emotional support, support groups, or educational workshops, we ensure that every family can access the help they need without financial barriers.

Your donations enable us to continue offering these crucial programs at no cost to families. Every contribution, big or small, has a direct impact on the lives of those we serve.

Help us sustain our mission of providing free, accessible peer support to families in our community. Please consider making a donation today.

We're here because we've been there too.

ITEM	PRICE
Shared Understanding and Empathy	\$0.00
Reduced Isolation and Stigma	\$0.00
Skill Building and Coping Strategies	\$0.00
Enhanced Resilience and Hope	\$0.00
TOTAL:	\$0.00

[Donate Here](#)

MCF's Commitment to Staff Wellbeing: Summer Fridays



At Maryland Coalition of Families, we prioritize the mental health and wellbeing of our staff. Recognizing that summer is a valuable time to spend with loved ones, MCF offers all staff Friday afternoons off beginning at 12 pm during the summer months.

Please note this schedule change and plan accordingly with your Family Peer Support Specialist if needed. We appreciate your understanding and hope you also take time for self-care this summer!

If you require immediate assistance for yourself or your loved one, please contact 988. If you need behavioral health resources, please visit our website.

[Visit our Website](#)

Get Connected! Stay Informed!

Online and In Person Support Groups

MCF offers many support groups to provide a safe space for you to learn, share and receive compassionate help. All are facilitated by trained Family Peer Support Specialists who have dealt with similar challenges in their own families. Groups are free for all participants and are held on different days of the week and different times of day. Find one or more that can work for you and join us soon!

[Find a Support Group](#)

Workshops, Trainings & Other Events

MCF offers a wide range of events, trainings and workshops for families who have a loved one with mental health, substance use or problem gambling challenges. Events are held in communities across the state or virtually and are offered at no cost to participants. Visit our website to learn more!

[Upcoming Events](#)

MCF Employment Opportunities

MCF is growing, and we have employment opportunities that might be perfect for you or someone you know! We currently have openings in many areas of the State. Please check our website for a complete list of openings.

- **Program Manager (Remote Worker - Must Live in St. Mary's, Charles, or Calvert County)**
- **Family Peer Support Specialist (Remote Worker - Must Live in Cecil County)**
- **Family Peer Support Specialist - Substance Use (Remote Worker - Must Live in Montgomery or Prince Georges County)**

[Employment Opportunities](#)



www.mdcoalition.org



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