Family Matters
A JAFCO Support Network

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.

When families find the courage to open up and ask for help, we are there. We are at your side.
“Our home is full of laughter and joy. Knowing that FamilyMatters is a part of our lives gives us comfort.”

**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**
- **SibShops™: The Sibling Support Project**
- **Parent & Relative Caregiver Support Groups**
- **Supervised Visitation Program**

FamilyMatters Participant, Family Strengthening Program
Empowering Families

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

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

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.

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:
- with a child with special needs
- with grandparents or relatives caring for a child
- with a single parent

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.

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.”

For more information about future events or to make a donation to FamilyMatters, visit familymattersnetwork.org or call 610 525 1040.
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 Family Matters.

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Professional Affiliations, Licensure and Partners

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