Much More Than the “Baby Blues”
The highs and lows often experienced during pregnancy and/or after giving birth, commonly referred to as the “baby blues” (which include mood swings, anxiety, irritability, crying, sleep problems, and sadness) are usually mild and pass quickly. But, sometimes those feelings can develop into something more serious. Postpartum Depression is much more intense and lasts much longer.

Postpartum Depression
Can happen to anyone, regardless of:
- Work Status
- Marital Status
- Number of Children
- Mental Health History.

It can happen during pregnancy, directly following birth, or even months later. As many as 80% of new mothers experience a range of highs and lows during pregnancy and/or following birth. About 20% of new mothers experience a clinical depression; left untreated, postpartum disorders can last for several months, or even years. Both men and women can experience postpartum depression. When one parent is suffering, certainly, the rest of the family suffers.

Could You Have Postpartum Depression?
Consider the following symptoms as guidelines
(if experienced every day, several times a day, reach out)

Sad/Weepy
Isolated/Lonely
Shame/Anger/Resentful
Anxious/Tense
Exhausted

Symptoms Requiring Immediate Attention:
- Loss of control
- Thoughts of hurting yourself
- Thoughts of hurting your baby
- Scary fantasies
- Visual or Auditory hallucinations

Whenever you feel it is continuously difficult to cope with daily tasks and decisions, don’t hesitate to ask for some help.

24/7 Stress Line:
Parents Helping Parents
1-800-632-8188

A New Baby Changes Your Life in Every Way
Becoming a parent is a major change that affects every aspect of life. It is normal to feel overwhelmed, uncertain, and sensitive as you learn about motherhood, especially in the first few weeks. However, if the troubles with adjusting to your new role persist, getting information and help as soon as possible will make a big difference in your ability to cope.

Postpartum Support International
Helpline: 1-800-944-4PPD
www.postpartum.net

MCPAP For Moms
855-666-6272
www.mcpapformoms.org

The Cape & Islands Maternal Depression Task Force
Coordinator: Mary Wilson
508-314-4776
marywilsonearlyedconsult@yahoo.com
COUNSELING, THERAPY & MEDICATION PRESCRIBERS
These providers have been screened by the Task Force, however this is not an exhaustive list of providers or an endorsement of any particular provider.
* Accepting MassHealth, Commonwealth Care

Diane Litton, LMHC
Falmouth Family Counseling, 508-548-2947

Aimee Loth Rozum, LMHC, ATR-BC
East Falmouth, 774-216-6522

Elaine Moraglia, LICSW
Mashpee, 508-269-2036

Aimee Facchinii, MSW, LICSW
Barnstable, 508-580-8578

Daniel Wyatt, MD*
Lower Cape: 508-349-1311

Betsy Edwards, LICSW
Marstons Mills, 508-420-1215

Ana J. Zick, LMHC
Barnstable, 774-238-2777 (Spanish services as well)

Ann Marie Muller, LMHC*
Psychiatric Collaborative (medication prescribers)
Brewster/W. Yarmouth, 508-240-7964 x219

Carol Nickerson, LICSW
Chatham, 508-432-5640

Kathleen Shine O’Brien, MA, LMHC
Sandwich, 508-374-4018

Enlightened Interventions, LLC*
Mashpee, Abigail Kelley-617-688-9920

Deborah Issoxson, Psy.D.
Pembroke, 617-314-8571 www.reproheart.com

Martha’s Vineyard Hospital
508-696-7294 (Info. about therapists, prescribers and other services)

Nantucket
Nancy Rappaport, LMHC 508-783-8841

Margaret Howard, PhD.
Women and Infants Day Hospital
Providence R.I., 401-274-1122

Dr Dina BenDavid
Primary Care/Women’s Health Greater New Bedford
Community Health Center 508-922-6553

Cape Behavioral Health Center*
Assessments/therapy available throughout Cape, all Masshealth products accepted. Office based therapy and medication management also available. 774-470-2294

NON-THERAPEUTIC SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Free Mom and Baby Groups
Cape Cod Hospital, Lorusso Conference Center Fridays 10-12
Contact Ann Macdonald
508-862-5123

Support & Healing for New Moms: Contact Suzan Scharr, RNC: sdscarr@gmail.com

Heal Like a Mother Support Group: Contact Erin Soderstrom (Mom and Survivor): www.heallikeamother.com

Cape Cod Healthy Families: Home visiting programs providing education and support for young moms, dads and children age 20 and under.
508-640-2968

Mom-To-Mom Contact: Erin Soderstrom (Mom and Survivor): 508-317-0467 erinsoderstrom@gmail.com

Postpartum Doulas

Krista Sullivan/Birth & Postpartum Doula
Monumental Beginnings Doula
www.monumentalbeginningsdoula.com

Shannon Outhcunis
Cape Cod Baby
https://www.capecod.baby/

Erinn Bray
By Your Side Doula
Erinnbyyourside@gmail.com

Medication Information

1. Medication and Mother’s Milk
by Thomas Hale (https://www.medsmilk.com) Note: The author’s website includes information about medications and breastfeeding)

2. lactmed@nih.gov

3. The Infant Risk Center: 806-352-2519

OTHER ASSISTANCE

Early Childhood Programs for Families with Prenatal-School Age Children
State-funded programs through MA Dept. of Early Education, Baby groups, Playgroups, Parenting Classes and support groups.

Barnstable:
Barnstable CFCE: barnstablecfce123@gmail.com

Dennis & Yarmouth:
ME Small Elementary School: D-Y CFCE 508-778-7988x4

Sandwich:
Sandwich Partnership for Families 508-477-6600x132

Upper Cape:
Coalition for Children
Falmouth & Mashpee
508-548-0151 x172
Bourne CFCE
508-790-0660

Lower/Outer Cape:
Cape Cod Children’s Place
508-240-3310

Martha’s Vineyard:
MV Community Services, the Family Network
508-693-7900x288

Nantucket:
Nantucket Community School,
Early Childhood Education
509-228-7285 x1168

KDC/Early Intervention/Children Birth- Age 3
Services for families with children who have developmental delays or disabilities or who are at risk for these
508-418-5521

Child Care Network of the Cape & Islands
Free info. and referral services about licensed and legally operating child care providers and financial assistance
888-530-2430 or 508-778-8470

Community Action Committee of Cape Cod & the Islands
A variety of assistance including housing and health insurance enrollment
800-845-1986 or 508-771-1727

Family Support Information Line (Cape & Islands)
A free, confidential info. and referral service for families needing help finding resources
508-771-4336

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) on Cape Cod
A variety of nutritional and support services for pregnant or breastfeeding women and children age 5 or younger
800-942-2445 or 508-771-7996 (Hyannis)