



Central Massachusetts Respite Project

The Central Massachusetts Respite Project (CMRP) is a collaboration between Seven Hills Foundation, the Central Massachusetts Partnership for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs, UMASS Memorial Children's Medical Center, Quinsigamond Community College and the Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs. The goal of the CMRP is to develop a respite program for children, youth, and adults with special health care needs in Central Massachusetts. This program trains potential care givers, provides them with the opportunity for a "real life" practicum experience, and encourages them to continue working in a field that has a huge demand with few available workers. More than 1,500 families in Worcester County currently qualify for this kind of care. This program is funded through a generous grant from the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts.



Program Goals

- Enhance/expand a family-centered respite program
- Develop a partnership between families, community agencies and institutions of higher education
- Provide a pipeline of Direct Service Professionals
- Recruit students from Quinsigamond Community College's Human Services Program and other local colleges
- Match college students with families requiring respite care
- University of Massachusetts Medical School and Seven Hills Foundation will provide training for students, including the completion of In Home and Community Based Respite Worker Trainings



This program reduces isolation for families, provides respite care where none exists, develops a practicum that leads to a career path, and reduces family stressors.

For more information, please contact CMRP Program Director Celia Brown at 508.755.2340 or cbrown@sevenhills.org.