### Support Groups

**Grandparent Support Group**
Grandparents supporting each other while supporting their grandchildren.
Contact Bette: 978-249-5070

**Dads’ Group**
A group designed specifically for dads.
Contact Nicole: 978-249-8467

**Moms’ Connection**
A group designed specifically for moms.
Contact Nicole: 978-249-8467

**Patch Parent’s Council**
A group that encourages parents to become leaders within their community.
Contact Jose: 978-249-5070

### Other Programs

**Lending Library**
Educational toys, children's books, and parenting books available for families to borrow. Located at The Family Center.

**Parent Leadership Development**
Workshops and trainings for parents interested in strengthening their leadership skills within the community.

**Parent Cafes**
A way for parents to engage in meaningful and organized conversations in a café styled setting.

**Welcome Baby Baskets**
Baskets filled with diapers, clothes, blankets, and resources for parents.

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**Teen Programs**

**Saturday Teen Group**
Monthly group with different activities, games, and topics.
Contact Jose: 978-249-5070

**Girls Group**
Weekly group with different activities, crafts, and games.
Contact Candy: 978-249-5070

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**Parent Leadership Development**
Workshops and trainings for parents interested in strengthening their leadership skills within the community.

**Parent Cafes**
A way for parents to engage in meaningful and organized conversations in a café styled setting.

**Welcome Baby Baskets**
Baskets filled with diapers, clothes, blankets, and resources for parents.

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**Valuing Our Children**
North Quabbin PATCH & Family Resource Center
109 Lumber ST Unit 5, Second Floor
Athol, MA 01331
978-249-5070

**Supporting Families**
Connecting to Community
and Building Strengths

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**www.valuingourchildren.org**
Valuing Our Children
valuing_our_children
@ValuingChildren

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**Dad’s Group**
Valuing Our Children was established in 1993 by the North Quabbin Community Coalition through a grant from John Boynton Fund. Valuing Our Children is currently supported by The Department of Children & Families, The Massachusetts Children’s Trust, and The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Through the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant

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**Kena Vescovi** - Executive Director
**Tina Richardson** - Business Manager
**Bette Jenks** - Family Services Director
**Julie Moschetti** - Family Support Director
**Jennifer Aldrich** - Director of Programs
**Nicole Lyman** - Early Childhood Director
**Sharon Hatstat** - Children’s Activities Facilitator
**Rebekah Fielding** - Early Learning Specialist
**Jose Vazquez Ortiz** - Patch Family Advocate
**Christine Bailey** - School Liaison
**Pat Moore** - Family Support Worker
**Kayla Bosselait** - Family Support Worker
**Mark Bissonnette** - Family Support Worker
**Kayla Marie Pollack** - Family Support Worker
**Jessica Piragis** - Family Support Worker
**Aimee Bachelder**—Family Support Worker
**Charlene Coutu** - Program Assistant
**Ann Soucie** - Patch Receptionist

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**All programs and activities are free for all families**
Family Support Program
Valuing Our Children’s Family
Support program provides supportive and advocacy services to families living in the North Quabbin Area involved with the Department of Children and Families or kinship placements.
Contact Julie at 978-249-3702

North Quabbin PATCH and Family Resource Center
Valuing Our Children’s satellite office partners with the Department of Children and Families and community providers through collaborative relationships, strengthening the North Quabbin community. At this location families can find VOC staff available to help with, advocacy and family support, Information & Referral, basic needs support such as SNAP applications and assistance with housing. The Family Resource Center (FRC) offers a school liaison to support families with educational related concerns and has a clinician and Family Partner on-site to provide clinical support for families when needed.
Contact Bette at 978-249-5070

Early Childhood Programming
Weekly Playgroups
Geared towards families with children ages newborn to 5, Valuing Our Children’s playgroups happen at our Family Center and in elementary schools within the community. These playgroups are designed to prepare children for school through literacy, math, science, and social and emotional activities.

Parent/Child Events
Valuing Our Children’s Parent/Child events include StoryWalks, Field Days, The Big Read! Literacy Fair. We also participate in other community events including Family Fun Day, Munch and Move, National Night Out and more.

Developmental Screening
Valuing Our Children offers a free screening tool for parents to use to help them get an idea on what their child’s strengths are or what they may need more practice with. A VOC staff member is available to help parents with the forms and to discuss the result of the screening. The staff member will also discuss ways the parent can help strengthen areas of need or to discuss other supports that the child may need.

For information on all Early Childhood Programming Contact Nicole: 978-249-8467

Parent-Child+
For families with children ages 16 months to 3 - years - old, this home visiting program offers free books and toys and teaches families ways to engage with their children that creates strong development and school readiness. Contact Nicole: 978-249-8467

Parenting Classes
Nurturing Program
For families with children under 7 this 15 week parenting education class gives parents the opportunity to learn new and effective parenting techniques and allows for parent child interaction through the use of family meals and circle time.
Contact Jennifer: 978-249-8467

Raising A Thinking Child
For parents with children ages 4 to 7 this 8 week parenting education class teaches skills to help children resolve every day conflicts and to get along with others.
Contact Jennifer: 978-249-8467

Nurturing Father’s Program
For fathers with children any age, this 13 week parenting education class is for fathers to reflect on their parenting style and learn new techniques for their “parent toolbox.” This group is set in a safe, nurturing environment where fathers have the opportunity to talk with other fathers and share the joys of parenting.
Contact Jennifer: 978-249-8467

Nurturing Skills
This one on one parenting education class is for parents seeking individualized parenting education. A curriculum providing flexibility to participants needs, parents work with a staff member to personalize sessions on topics related to parent’s needs.
Contact Bette: 978-249-5070