

News and Events for Student Parents

Support Group for Student Parents via Zoom Upcoming meetings 4/18 and 5/3 @ 8:30pm

Join fellow student parents every other Monday to connect, share stories and resources, and get the support you need during this challenging time. The group meets via Zoom at 8:30 pm. See [here](#) for upcoming dates and Zoom link.

Women of Color Leadership Network and Student Parent Programs present, **A Conversation on Imposter Syndrome 4/20 @ 5pm**

Have you ever feared that you may not be as capable as people think you are? Have you ever felt an extra burden to prove yourself as a woman of color?

If so, you may be experiencing Imposter Syndrome.

Join us on Tuesday April 20th to learn more about what Imposter Syndrome is and how to work on overcoming the feelings it causes. You can register for the event [here](#).

Sign up for SPP Office Hours - Wednesdays and Thursdays

You can sign up for a virtual meeting with an SPP staff member on Wednesdays or Thursdays. We'll send you a link for the meeting once you sign up. You can also [email](#) us anytime with questions or to set up a meeting on a different day/time.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and check out our [webpage](#) for more information about resources and support for parenting students as well as news about upcoming programming and events.



Community Resource Spotlight:

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

The Department of Early Education and Care's mission is to support the healthy growth and development of all children by providing high quality programs and resources for families and communities.

How DEEC can help student parents:

Financial Assistance: The Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) provides child care financial assistance for families in need. In order to be eligible for funding, you and your family must meet certain requirements. See [here](#) for more information.

Child Care Search Tool: DEEC has a [searchable database](#) of licensed Family, Group or School Age Child Care programs - you can search by town(s), age group and more. DEEC also offers guidance to families in selecting a child care provider. Check out their [factsheet on choosing a child care provider](#) for more information.

Child Development Guidance: DEEC has developed guidance for parents, families and other caregivers of young children that focuses on understanding and fostering healthy child development. The guidance materials provide tips and suggested activities for families to help positively impact their child's growth and learning.

Resources for Early Learning: This site provides exciting, engaging media-rich learning opportunities for educators, parents, and caregivers of children. From detailed lesson plans to simple, everyday activities, you will find everything you need to help your children succeed.

University Resource Spotlight:

Women of Color Leadership Network

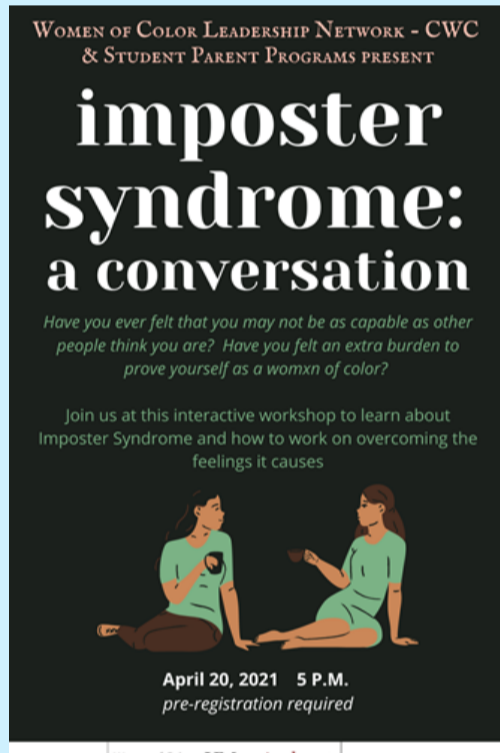
The Women of the Color Leadership Network (WOCLN) at Center for Women & Community provides advocacy, mentoring, programming, training and a home for women and nonbinary people of color as well as workshops and events for the general public.

All WOCLN events are free and open to the public.

Upcoming events:

- Tuesday April 20th @ 5pm - **A Conversation on Imposter Syndrome** - co-sponsored by Student Parent Programs -- [register here!](#)
- Thursday April 22 @ 7pm - **P.R.O.P.S. 2021 Showcase** - Presenting Real, Original, Powerful Stories. Come celebrate the hard work of four amazing UMass Amherst students who have dedicated their time to telling their inspiring stories.
- Every Thursday, 12:00-1:00 PM, through May 6 **WOCLN Weekly Check-In** - Connect with others and get connected to resources!

Click [here](#) for more information and to see the events calendar. Follow WOCLN on social media [@umasswocln](#) to find out about their updated programming.



Student Parent

Spotlight

Jie Zou, Bachelor's of Science, Nursing, 2021

Congratulations to Jie Zou, who graduated with her B.S.N. this past January!

Jie's story:

I attended UMass Amherst Nursing School in the fall of 2018 on the Accelerated Bachelor's Degree track. My son Oliver was three years old at that time.

Student Parent Programs (SPP) provided tremendous help and resources for me as a student parent.

Thanks to the financial support from SPP, my son was able to stay 11 hours at the daycare on weekdays, which enabled me to focus on my coursework and clinical practice. During the pandemic, SPP sent craft kits to my son that he could spend time on when I was at zoom meetings. During my dark time, I received so much encouragement and inspiration from SPP staff, who were always thoughtful and supportive.

I graduated early this year, and landed an RN job at Baystate Health. Now I am officially an RN! As I move on, I will never forget the warmth and kindness that I received from SPP and will pass them on to my clients and the people I meet. SPP played an indispensable role in helping me achieve my educational goal at UMass Amherst.

We are thrilled for Jie as she moves on with her career goals - and so in awe of her ability to persevere despite the challenges she faced this past year. We have no doubt that she will be bring tremendous skill, compassion, and expertise to her new job. Go Jie!

Stay tuned for next month's newsletter where we will highlight more graduating student parents!



In next month's issue:

Details about upcoming programming and events

Featured community and university resources

Student Parent Spotlight - Graduates!!

UMassAmherst

Student Parent Programs

We want your feedback!

If you have information or resources that you think we should include in an upcoming newsletter, [let us know!](#)

We're here for you!

We know that student parent families face a lot of uncertainty during this time. While our offices are not open for in-person support, you can [email](#) our staff and we will reach out to you within 1-2 business days.