

About COMPASS

COMPASS' mission is to equip those it serves with the skills to become self-sufficient, productive members of their communities and society.

COMPASS has established itself as one of Massachusetts' leading providers of special education and human services for youth and families in need. It specializes in providing services to an at-risk population that includes comprehensive and individualized education, stabilization, transition, counseling, support, and enrichment services.

Geographic areas served:

We currently work with five DDS area offices; The Greater Boston office (Metro), South Coastal (Braintree), Lawrence, Brockton and Charles River West.

Languages

English, Spanish, and Creole.

Expected frequency of contact with families

COMPASS Individual Support & Family Navigation is a service that is responsive to the Individual's and Families evolving needs. As such, we will see the Individual and their Families, as often as is requested and/or needed, when and where it is most convenient and constructive for the individual.

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DDS Services

*Home and
community-based
mentorship to
young adults in
Greater Boston and
Lawrence*



In Partnership with The Department
of Developmental Services



History of DDS Services at COMPASS

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has identified that many of the individuals served are new to the DDS service, and can benefit from working with someone they can identify with and are more familiar with their social and environmental atmosphere.

Based on COMPASS' history of developing relationships with individuals, it is our goal to help our clients build skills through education, repetition, and enrichment so they can participate fully and meaningfully in, and contribute to, their communities as valued members.

COMPASS provides mentorship, teaches life skills, and connects clients to resources in their community. COMPASS began work with DDS in 2013 when transitioning an individual that aged out of DCF and refused to accept service from DDS unless he continued work with the COMPASS worker.



Goal for our Clients:

- Connect individuals to long-term community resources with various collateral agencies, assist with furthering their education, and assist with obtaining employment and housing
- Provides individuals with skills and training to maintain independence
- Empowers clients to use existing resources to their fullest potential and access new resources in their community
- Leverages COMPASS' considerable court experience in addressing criminal offenses, maintains communication with appropriate personnel, and accompanies individuals to court appearances
- Assists clients in developing better parenting techniques, including: communication skills, safety planning, behavior modification plans, problem-solving, and time and stress management



More About DDS Services

COMPASS Provides home and community-based mentorship to young adults (ages 22+) with developmental disabilities who have been referred by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

Benefits for The Community

For individuals and families:

- Increased independence and choice - Build daily living skills.
- Improved health and well-being -
- Higher overall quality of life.
- Stronger social connections - Inclusive community activities create friendships and natural support networks.

For the broader community:

- More inclusive neighborhoods - Visibility enables everyday engagement in community settings, builds understanding, reduces stigma, promotes a culture of respect and inclusion.
- Shared skills and contributions - Volunteering, job fulfillment
- Stronger family and community networks - Coordinated supports help families stay connected to work, school, and community life,