Parenting Workshops

Preparing for Baby Series, Spring 2020

Being pregnant and becoming parents often feels like navigating 100 different options and even more opinions! There are so many changes your body goes through and lots of new information to learn in a short period of time. This class helps cut through the extra (and unnecessary) noise. The Preparing for Baby series will help you sort through much of the information available for new parents and guide you in making the best decisions for your family. All Cornellians (faculty, staff, postdocs, and students) and their partners/support persons are welcome to attend, free of charge.

For information, please contact worklife@cornell.edu. The Spring 2020 workshops are being held on Wednesdays from 5:15 – 7:15 p.m., College of Veterinary Medicine, Conference Room S2-223 (The Green Room). Parking in B Lot or drop-offs from TCAT Bus Route 82.

Registration Required

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Spring 2020 Schedule

Class One, March 11, 2020

Welcome, Cornell Benefits and Resources: Work/Life, Wellness, Insurance, Family/Medical Leaves, Grants, Workplace Flexibility, FSAP, Environmental Health & Safety, etc.

This session will provide an opportunity to get to know one another as well as connect you with Cornell resources that may be helpful to you throughout your pregnancy, birth, family leave, the shift to parenthood and for your return to work or studies. Key representatives will share information about their programs, highlight their services and are available to answer your questions.

Class Two, March 18, 2020

Healthy Pregnancy and Birth Choices Part 1: Pregnancy and Preparing for Birth
There are lots of great resources for pregnancy and birth here in Ithaca. This class will help narrow down what choices that resonate most with your needs. Part one will cover: local birth options, labor support, ways to find supportive resources and information, what's happening in your body during pregnancy, staying healthy and comfortable with nutrition and movement, essential movements for balancing your pelvis for an easier delivery, and how to become an educated consumer and advocate for your care. You'll have the opportunity to draw, laugh, learn, get to know other participants, and move your body. Please wear comfortable clothes.

Class Three, March 25, 2020

Healthy Pregnancy and Birth Choices Part 2: Labor Choices and the Birth Plan

Once the labor process begins, there are still many options to choose from depending on your need/desire and that of your baby. Part two will cover: how you will know you’re in labor, when to head to the hospital/have your care team arrive at your home, ways to cope with labor - both naturally and medically, birth plans, common things that can change your plans, and movement during birth. Again, you will have the chance to connect, laugh, learn, move, and dive deeper into your unique needs for this transition. You will leave these two workshops with lots of resources for further learning, a clear idea of what is available to you in this community, and the makings of a birth plan. **There are many handouts for both of these classes, so if you are unable to make one of the sessions, you can still access the resources.

Class Four, April 15, 2020

Beyond the Birth Day: What to Expect in the Immediate Postpartum

In this session, we will discuss what to expect during the first few weeks after your baby's birth. We will cover evidence-based information on infant sleep, newborn behavior, and maternal recovery from birth. This will be a lively and engaging class with a group discussion on the needs and expectations of both babies and mothers, including suggestions for how to make sure that everyone is getting the care and support that they need.

Class Five, April 22, 2020

Postpartum Relationship Changes

The partner relationship is undoubtedly the biggest postpartum change that is overlooked, underestimated and under-addressed. Our culture's expectation of life after the baby’s birth is a happily ever after story where parents are more in love than ever before. In reality, the truth is often very different. Please come join us for a realistic discussion on understanding the distinct needs of each parent, strengthening partner and parental bonds and how to keep communication flowing. While it is not required for partners to attend together, some portions of the session are formatted so that partners can talk and work together.

Class Six, April 29, 2020

Breastfeeding Part 1 - Breastfeeding Basics

Review the fundamentals of successful breastfeeding, including holding techniques, latching on, maximizing comfort, and the basics of pumping.
Class Seven, May 6, 2020

Breastfeeding Part 2 - Pumping with Success & Returning to Work as a Breastfeeding Parent
Community Partner: Jeanette McCulloch

Explore the various pumps available, how to select a pump, when to begin pumping, and the fundamentals of pumping techniques. Learn about building up a freezer supply for the return to work, when to introduce the bottle, and tools for juggling breastfeeding and work. We will also review the Cornell policy on lactation accommodations, mother’s rooms and resources available.

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Past Workshops

Parenting Teens: Health, Wellbeing and Safety Series

Wed, April 3, 2019

*Room Change - G01 Biotech, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Marisa Matsudaira, LCSW from Northeast Pediatrics, will share the "top emotional, behavioral and physical concerns" seen at the office (teen communication, healthy/development, navigating boundaries and rules, managing at risk behaviors, friendships/dating, coping/stress, online safety, bullying, sexuality). She will address them with evidence based research, share guidelines, stories, and practical tips.

Remote option available.

Registration Required

Thur, May 2, 2019

Weill Hall, Room 226, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Janis Whitlock, Research Scientist and Associate Director for Teaching and Training in the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, will discuss her current research which revolves around young adult social/emotional health with a focus on connectedness, self-injury and suicide prevention, sexual violence prevention and intervention development.

Remote option available.

Registration Required

Parent to Parent Workshop - Tips for Beginning the College Search

Wed, May 8, 2019

340 Duffield Hall, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Designed primarily for parents/caregivers of high school students who are not yet seniors, this program will provide participants with a roadmap for how to begin the college search process. Topics covered include gathering and organizing information about colleges and universities; developing a customized list of schools based on your student’s interests and
Parent to Parent Workshops - Strategies and Tools for Maximizing College Admissions and Affordability Fall 2019

Designed primarily for parents/caregivers of high school students who are not yet seniors (although all are welcome), this program will help participants understand how to embark upon a customized college search that will maximize their teen’s chances for admission and financial aid. Find out what the glossy brochures aren’t telling you, and learn from a parent who has successfully navigated this journey how to use free tools and data to reduce the guesswork and increase your student’s likelihood of acceptance.

Session One: Admissions

Thursday, November 14, 2019

140 East Hill Office Building, 4:00 - 5:15 pm

This workshop will focus on understanding the key factors that influence admissions decisions, and using data tools and strategies to pinpoint which colleges are most likely to say yes to your student.

Registration Required

Session Two: Affordability

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

130 East Hill Office Building, 4:00 - 5:15 pm

This workshop will focus on understanding college costs and using data tools and strategies to ensure your student has affordable college options. Participants are encouraged to attend both sessions, as the content of session 2 builds on that presented in session 1.

Registration Required

Presenter: Ruth Katz works in the Department of Human Resources/HR Analytics, where she designs tools to evaluate programs and measure their impact. She is the parent of a college student.