



JF&CS PERCOLATOR MEMORY CAFÉ NETWORK

THE NEED FOR MEMORY CAFÉS

Individuals living with dementia and their care partners often become socially isolated, due to stigma as well as the difficulty in managing daily tasks. Medical and social service providers offer critical assistance with health and resource needs, but they can't restore access to the simple joy of visiting the neighborhood café.

Memory cafés offer a cup of coffee and a connection. Whether they are held at a coffee shop, a museum, a senior or social service center, a library, a house of worship, a garden or another location, each memory café is designed so that people with dementia will feel safe, supported and successful. For care partners, they are a much-needed coffee break in the “thirty-six hour day.”

THE JF&CS PERCOLATOR MEMORY CAFÉ NETWORK – WHAT IT OFFERS

Shortly after launching the second memory café in Massachusetts, JF&CS began to receive requests for technical assistance from others wishing to start a café. Inspired by this outpouring of interest, JF&CS started the Percolator network in autumn 2014. The Percolator meets quarterly and has provided the following benefits to existing and developing memory cafés:

- Statewide online directory of memory cafés
- Memory Café Toolkit in English and in Spanish
- Forum for sharing café models, and troubleshooting challenges
- Guest artist/activity facilitator directory for use by café coordinators
- Ensuring that dates/times of new cafés complement rather than conflict with one another
- Establishing shared norms and standards to promote high-quality cafés
- Encouraging the development of cafés in many languages and cultural communities
- Promoting public awareness about memory cafés, and collaborating with other programs to move toward a “dementia friendly” Massachusetts

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the Percolator or to attend a quarterly meeting, please contact:

Beth Soltzberg, MSW, MBA
Director, Alzheimer's/Related Disorders Family Support Program
JF&CS, 1430 Main Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451
bsoltzberg@jfcsboston.org or 781-693-5628

Visit the Percolator and find resources and tools at www.jfcsboston.org/Percolator

The Percolator is proud to have been selected as the 2017 winner in the Creative Expression category of the Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Award.