Juvenile Dependency Mediation Training Symposium

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

December 4, 2013
Anaheim Marriott
700 West Convention Way
Anaheim, CA 92802

Agenda

Wednesday, December 4
8:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

This training is designed for mediators and managers of juvenile dependency mediation programs and is also open to court administrators and other professionals interested in developing mediation programs in their county. Topics covered during this day long training will focus on different aspects of juvenile dependency mediation programs, including administrative and program structure, systems issues and mediation skills. This training is designed to be interactive with the goal of strategizing solutions to current challenges and barriers and mediator skill development.
Attendance open to juvenile dependency mediators, managers, court administrators and other professionals interested in learning about and/or developing mediation programs.

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	**California Dependency Mediation** *Kristine Van Dorsten, Senior Court Services Analyst, AOC Center for Families, Children & the Courts* **Child Welfare County Data Profiles** *Deana Farole, Supervising Research Analyst, AOC Center for Families, Children & the Courts* **Program Highlights** *David Cherniss, Esq., ADR Managing Attorney, San Mateo Superior Court* *Samantha Watkins, Creative Mediation Programs Coordinator, San Luis Obispo County* *Yoshi Asanuma, M.A., Senior Juvenile Dependency Court Mediator, Fresno County* *Mary Carey, Attorney, Contra Costa County*
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	**Break**
10:15 – 12:00 Noon	**Mediating Across Cultures: A Skill Building and Awareness Dialogue** *Michael Roosevelt, Senior Court Services Analyst, AOC Center for Families, Children & the Courts*
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	**Working Lunch: Updates on JDM Programs in California** *Juvenile Dependency Mediators* *This interactive segment to include working lunch and break.*

1:00 – 2:30p.m. **Early Interventions in a Dependency Case**
Sylvia Deporto, Deputy Director of Family & Children Services Division, San Francisco County
Jane Smithson, Trainer/Consultant/Attorney-at-Law, San Mateo County

2:30 – 2:45p.m. **Break**

2:45 – 4:15p.m. **Roundtable: Sharing Strategies**
Facilitator: Kristine Van Dorsten, Senior Court Services Analyst, AOC Center for Families, Children & the Courts

Description & Objectives

California Dependency Mediation

This segment will focus on statewide dependency mediation and highlight various program structures that have remained strong and continue to provide mediation in spite of the recent budget cuts. An overview of county data profiles will also be presented.
Objectives

1. Attendees will become familiar with data tools to help them better understand their local dependency populations and how to serve them.
2. Attendees will be able to describe different mediation program structures and consider different options for modifying or developing a program in their county.

Mediating Across Cultures: A Skill Building and Awareness Dialogue

This segment will focus on juvenile dependency mediators' work with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds. This interactive session explores effective and practical strategies for reducing personal biases and strengthening skills and abilities when working with diverse populations.
Objectives:

1. Attendees will identify personal biases and stereotypes;
2. Attendees will be knowledgeable about how to reduce the impact of biases and stereotypes;
3. Attendees will learn strategies on how to effectively work with different racial, ethnic and cultural groups.

Updates on JDM Programs in California

This segment will focus on changes and new developments to existing dependency mediation programs statewide.
Objective: Attendees will be informed of changes and new developments to dependency mediation programs statewide.

Early Interventions in a Dependency Case

This segment focuses on the role of CPS in the early stages of a juvenile dependency case. There are legal requirements that must be met, responsibilities of the department and various services that are considered immediately before, during and after filing and/or removing a child. This workshop will focus on the early life of a case, including the role of CACI and due process, and facilitate a discussion about the role of dependency mediation during this time.
Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to describe the requirements and services of CPS at the time of filing or removing a child;

2. Attendees will become familiar with the CACI process and due process rights of parties;
3. Attendees will discuss the role of dependency mediation in the early life of a case and strategize barriers to its use.

Roundtable: Sharing Strategies

This segment will allow participants to strategize solutions to various challenges that mediators experience in multi-party dependency mediations. Participants will also engage in a solution focused discussion and consider alternative approaches to systemic barriers in the development and maintenance of mediation programs.
Objectives:

1. Attendees will critically analyze solution focused strategies geared toward improving dependency mediation work.
2. Attendees will create statewide connections to support and advance their efforts toward successful alternative dispute resolution methods in dependency cases.

Bios of Faculty

David Cherniss began his legal career in 1979 and thereafter practiced as a sole practitioner and law partner in both southern and northern California. In 2001 he transitioned to the San Mateo Superior Court to develop a Restorative Justice program in the Juvenile division of the Superior Court. David is currently the ADR Program Managing Attorney for the San Mateo Superior Court. His responsibilities include management oversight for the Victim/Offender Mediation Program, the Dependency Mediation Program, Probate Court Investigations, Family Court Services, and the Family Law Facilitator's office.

Samantha Watkins is the Mediation Program Coordinator for Creative Mediation, the private, nonprofit community mediation program for San Luis Obispo County. Prior to her current position, she worked as Program Director for a therapeutic child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment program. With her background in Education, Child Development, and Social Science, she has worked in the nonprofit sector for more than 17 years to improve the lives of children and families who've experienced trauma or abuse. As a mediator since 2006, she has provided more than 350 mediation sessions to parties in conflict, 125 of those in Juvenile Dependency.

Yoshi Asanuma is currently a Senior Juvenile Dependency Mediator for the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno. He was a "Vietnam Era" veteran. He received his undergraduate degree in Business Administration with emphasis in healthcare management and a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from California State University, Fresno. Yoshi worked as a certified rehabilitation counselor, helping people with emotional and physical disabilities live independently for 3 years. For the next 29 years he has been assessing the best interest of children. He worked for Child Protective Services for Merced County before joining Family Court Services in Fresno County in 1988. In 2001 his assignment changed from mediating family court child custody cases to juvenile dependency mediation.

Mary Carey graduated from UC Berkeley and the University of San Francisco, School of Law. She worked for the Contra Costa Public Defender's Office representing adults and minors in criminal and dependency actions. Mary has over 28 years of jury trial and court trial experience. While advocating on behalf of children and parents in the juvenile dependency court, Mary developed the expertise and knowledge she currently relies upon as a mediator for the Contra Costa County Juvenile Dependency Court. For the past 9 years Mary P. Carey has built a specialized litigation practice of her own in Walnut Creek, CA. Mary is the Chairperson of the Contra Costa Bar Association Criminal Section, and serves on the Board of Directors of the CCC Bar Association. She is an active member in the California Public Defender Association, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center.

Sylvia Deporto is currently the Deputy Director of Family & Children's Services Division of the Human Services Agency for the City & County of San Francisco. Prior to this position she was the Assistant Director for the Children's Services Division in Riverside County. Sylvia received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of California at Riverside and a Master's degree in Counseling from California State University at Cal State San Bernardino. She has over 27 years of experience in the field of social work including child protective services; services to elderly, blind and disabled adults; and services to developmentally delayed children. She was employed with Riverside County Children's Services Division for 21 years serving in the capacity of social worker, supervisor, trainer, manager and director.

Jane Smithson has practiced law since 1977 with an emphasis on Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency. As a member of San Mateo County's Private Defender Program she has represented thousands of minors in 602 cases and both children and parents in Dependency matters. She was honored by Child Advocates of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties in 1999 for her work in championing the rights of children who have been neglected or abused. In 2003 she left the practice of law to become a consultant to San Mateo County's Human Services Agency on Child Welfare Redesign. She has coordinated Independent Living Skills Classes for Foster Youth at the Community Colleges, taught Parenting Classes through the YWCA in San Jose, and has served as the Co-Chair of the San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council. She has taught Mandated Child Abuse Reporting in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.

Michael Roosevelt is a senior court services analyst with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Criminal Justice Court Services Office and the Center for Families, Children & the Courts. Previously, Mr. Roosevelt worked in the AOC Education Division/CJER for eight years, developing diversity/fairness programs and curricula for judicial officers, managers, court staff and other court professionals. Currently, he works on veterans, corrections and reentry projects. He has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in clinical psychology from San Francisco State University.

Deana Farole is a Supervising Research Analyst with the Center for Families, Children & the Courts and has been employed by the AOC since June 2006. Ms. Farole returned to CFCC after a brief tenure with the Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, where she was involved in a jury study and the evaluation of a specialized domestic violence probation unit. At CFCC, she has worked on a broad array of research, evaluation, and data collection projects in the areas of family and juvenile law, court workload and management reporting, elder abuse, and self-represented litigants. Ms. Farole has also been employed with the San Diego Association of Governments, where she evaluated juvenile justice programs and reported on regional crime and arrest statistics. Ms. Farole received her master's degree in applied sociology from Temple University and her bachelor's degree in sociology, with a concentration in family demography, from the University of Pennsylvania.

Kristine Van Dorsten is a senior court services analyst with the Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) where she has provided consultation, technical assistance and training on a variety of projects related to family, probate and dependency court system programs since 2007. Ms. Van Dorsten has served as a facilitator, trainer and moderator for numerous trainings and meetings over the past 20 years. Ms. Van Dorsten's background has included many years of direct service for Children Services and the courts as an investigator and mediator, as well as management and administrative positions within these systems. She is a licensed social worker in the State of Ohio, and is a certified professional development coach with specialized advanced training in organizational systems and team coaching.

This event will provide training applicable to the following categories:

- Up to 7 hours of initial and continuing education credit toward the requirement pursuant to California Rule of Court 5.518(d)(3)(A-K) and (g).
- Up to 7 hours of continuing education, per Trial Court Personnel Rule 10.474(c)(1)-(2).
- Up to 7 hours of California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) CEU's.
- Up to 7 hours of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) CEU's.