

**HOW MUCH WILL ALL OF THIS COST ME?**

- Divorce Impact Education class: \$125 per person
- CMC Assessment Interview: \$85 per person
- H.O.P.E. session \$250 per person
- DR Services: Sliding scale approved by the court, based on annual gross income (see below)

Individual Gross Income	Hourly Fee <i>per person</i>	Mediation (initial payment due: 10 hours of service)  <i>per person</i>	Limited Case Management (initial payment due: 12 hours of service)  <i>per person</i>	Brief Focused Assessment (initial payment due: 22 hours of service)  <i>per person</i>
\$15,999 or less	\$20	\$200	\$240	\$440
\$16,000 – \$19,999	\$30	\$300	\$360	\$660
\$20,000 - \$24,999	\$40	\$400	\$480	\$880
\$25,000 - \$29,999	\$50	\$500	\$600	\$1,100
\$30,000 - \$34,999	\$60	\$600	\$720	\$1,320
\$35,000 – \$39,999	\$65	\$650	\$780	\$1,430
\$40,000 - \$44,999	\$70	\$700	\$840	\$1,540
\$45,000 - \$49,999	\$75	\$750	\$900	\$1,650
\$50,000 - \$54,999	\$80	\$800	\$960	\$1,760
\$55,000 - \$59,999	\$85	\$850	\$1,020	\$1,870
\$60,000 - \$64,999	\$90	\$900	\$1,080	\$1,980
\$65,000 – \$69,999	\$95	\$950	\$1,140	\$2,090
\$70,000 – \$74,999	\$100	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$2,200
\$75,000 – \$79,999	\$105	\$1,050	\$1,260	\$2,310
\$80,000 - \$89,999	\$115	\$1,150	\$1,380	\$2,530
\$90,000 - \$99,999	\$125	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$2,750
\$100,000 - \$125,000	\$135	\$1,350	\$1,620	\$2,970
\$125,000 - \$150,000	\$145	\$1,450	\$1,740	\$3,190
\$150,000 +	\$155	\$1,550	\$1,860	\$3,410

**DIVORCE IMPACT EDUCATION CLASS**

(Parents Forever)

- ◆ Second THURSDAY of every month  
5:15 pm—7:15 pm
- ◆ Fourth TUESDAY of every month  
5:15 pm—7:15 pm

All classes are held virtually on Zoom. To register, go to:

<https://kipcor.org/community-mediation-center/divorcingseparating-parents/#divorcing>

**H.O.P.E.**

(Healthy Opportunities for Parenting Effectively)

- ◆ For information on Spring, Summer or Fall sessions, or to Register for a session, go to:  
[www.kipcor.org/HOPE/](http://www.kipcor.org/HOPE/)

All H.O.P.E. classes are held virtually on Zoom every other Monday starting at 6:00 p.m.

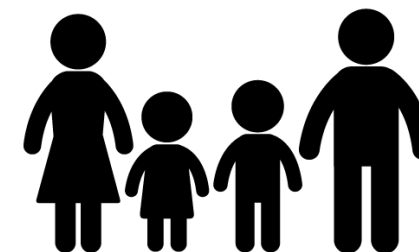
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January 2022

# Family Separation & Divorce



## A Guide to the Dispute Resolution Triage Program



### 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

Harvey County &  
McPherson County  
Kansas

## The Dispute Resolution Triage Program

If you are involved in a court matter related to family separation and divorce, including a parenting dispute, you may be required to take certain steps as part of the court's **Dispute Resolution Triage Program**.

The **Community Mediation Center (CMC)** administers the Triage Program. We have prepared this brochure to help explain how the program works, and what you may be required to do.

### YOUR FIRST STEP: DIVORCE IMPACT EDUCATION

Most newly-separating or divorcing parents are required to attend a CMC-approved **Divorce Impact Education** class ("Parents Forever"). This two-hour class focuses on the impact of divorce/separation on your family, yourself and your child(ren). You have **sixty (60) days** to attend the class. Meeting location & times are noted on the back panel of this brochure.



### NEXT STEPS: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

If you and the other parent cannot resolve your parenting issues on your own, the Judge will direct you to contact the CMC to receive a Dispute Resolution (DR) service. These services are provided by CMC's panel of specially-trained DR Specialists, and include:

**Mediation:** In mediation, you and the other parent meet face-to-face with a mediator who guides you through a confidential and non-coercive process. The goal is to help parents make their own decisions and develop parenting plans that work best for their child(ren). Mediated agreements are then filed with the court. If there is no agreement, CMC will review the case and determine whether further DR services would be helpful.

**Limited case management (LCM):** Cases referred to LCM often involve higher conflict and/or more complex issues than those sent to mediation. LCM is NOT a confidential process, although you and the other parent will still meet face-to-face and work with a limited case manager in ways similar to mediation. Unlike mediation, if you and the other parent don't reach agreement, the case manager must make a recommendation to the court.

**Brief Focused Assessment (BFA):** Cases referred to BFA involve significantly more conflict and complexity. BFA is NOT a confidential process and parents are not brought face-to-face. Instead, a licensed mental health professional, appointed by the court, will evaluate your family's specific circumstances and make a recommendation to the court.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS?

**You have seven (7) days** from the date the Judge issues the order for DR to call the Community Mediation Center and arrange for the following:

1. Take a self-directed online educational course for divorcing or separating parents ([www.uptoparents.org](http://www.uptoparents.org)), print out your completed materials and provide them to CMC.
2. Provide recent pay stubs or other **proof of income** since fees for DR services are based on annual gross income.
3. Participate in a confidential assessment interview. This assessment assists CMC in identifying the level of conflict and complexity of issues so we can match your family situation with the appropriate DR service, in accordance with evidence-based practices. Assessments are scheduled in both Harvey and McPherson counties and take about an hour. Once the assessment is complete, CMC will notify you, the court, and your attorney (if you have one) which DR service is recommended for your case. You will be given a schedule for your initial meetings and notice of the required service fee.

## HOW LONG WILL THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS TAKE?

It depends... on the complexity of issues, the calendars of everyone involved (including the DR Specialist and the Court), and also the responsiveness of you and your co-parent. In general, CMC tries to conduct assessment interviews within ten days after being contacted by both parents, and usually is able to issue a DR service recommendation a few days later. Anticipate a minimum of 2-3 months from the start of a DR service to completion, but note that more complex cases may require more time.

In any event, please remember that these are court-ordered services and **you may need to alter your work and/or personal schedule** to complete the process in a timely manner.

## WHAT IS H.O.P.E.?

H.O.P.E. stands for **Healthy Opportunities for Parenting Effectively**. The program is designed to educate parents on ways they can improve their co-parenting skills while always keeping a focus on their child(ren)'s needs. Each H.O.P.E. session consists of five (5) classes that run 60-90 minutes on Zoom, with assignments to complete in between classes. Sessions are offered in the Spring, Summer and Fall. Meeting time is noted on the back panel of this brochure.

The Judge, CMC or the DR Specialist handling your case may order or recommend that you and your co-parent attend a H.O.P.E. session. You may also choose to attend voluntarily.

