

## Child Protection Mediation Training Announcement

The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division of D.C. Superior Court is soliciting applications from those interested in mediating in the division's Child Protection Mediation Program, which handles cases involving allegations of child abuse and neglect. Applicants should understand that mediating these cases can be particularly challenging; cases often involve a number of risk factors, including parental substance abuse, mental health issues, intrafamily violence and high conflict levels. The 5-day training will include instruction in mediation skills, background on District of Columbia law concerning child abuse and neglect, and an orientation to the program's administration and logistics. The training will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm; trainees must attend all five days of training and observe one child protection mediation before the start of training on October 2, 2013.

Applicants working or volunteering for any agency or organization that represents any party in child abuse and neglect cases in Family Court (in the District of Columbia) will be excluded for conflict of interest. All trainees must clear the national child abuse registry, which requires fingerprinting by the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department.

Following training, mediators will co-mediate with experienced child protection mediators for at least three sessions, or until both they and program staff agree that they are ready to mediate independently. Mediation opportunities are available Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Following the completion of training and mentoring, mediators are paid a stipend of \$120 per mediation session and \$50 for reporting to mediate, if the mediation session is not held.

Applicants must be available to mediate at least ten cases in the year following completion of training. Anyone who cannot make this commitment at this time should not apply. Trainees who are unable to keep this commitment during their first year will be ineligible to continue with the program. Upon completion of the first year commitment, mediators are required to earn 16 hours of continuing education credit during every two-year term to remain on the program roster. Attendance at certain program training events may also be required.

### ***Applications and resumes must be received by June 12, 2013.***

Multi-Door will interview selected applicants prior to selection. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Interviews will be conducted during the months of June and July, and trainees may be selected on a rolling basis. Applicants will be notified of selection no later than July 31, 2013.

Applications may be submitted by regular mail, email or in person. Those sent by regular mail should be sent to: Child Protection Mediation Training, Multi-Door Division, D.C. Superior Court, 410 E St. NW, Room 2900, Washington, DC 20001. Email applications can be sent to: [MultiDoorTraining@dcsc.gov](mailto:MultiDoorTraining@dcsc.gov). In-person delivery should be to the division's main office at 410 E St. NW, Room 2900.

Questions about the program or application process should be directed to Karen Leichtnam, ADR Training Manager, at [karen.leichtnam@dcsc.gov](mailto:karen.leichtnam@dcsc.gov) or by telephone at 202-879-0675, or to Janice Buie, Child Protection Program Manager, at [janice.buie@dcsc.gov](mailto:janice.buie@dcsc.gov) or by telephone at 202-879-0676.

*See next page for application form.*

**Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division**

**Child Protection Mediation Training Application**

**Fall 2013**

Name:

Email address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Daytime telephone:

1. Tell us what in your background and experience would make you a good mediator for cases involving child abuse and neglect. (Please limit your response to no more than 250 words.)

2. Are you a social worker or have you done work related to this field?      Yes      No  
If yes, please describe.

3. Do you have specialized knowledge of child development or child welfare issues? Yes      No  
If yes, please describe.

4. Are you an attorney? Yes No
5. If an attorney, have you handled cases involving child abuse and neglect? Yes No  
If yes, please describe (include number of cases handled and number of years handling these types of cases)
6. Have you previously been trained as a mediator? Yes No
7. Do you have experience mediating cases? Yes No  
If you have experience mediating, please list programs for which you have mediated. Include the approximate dates of service and the approximate number of cases mediated.
8. If accepted for this training, will you commit to making yourself available to mediate at least ten cases during the year following training? Yes No
9. Are you available to mediate on weekdays beginning between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm, for at least three hours? Yes No
10. Are you available to attend the entire training course, on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, as well as to observe a mediation session sometime between July 31<sup>st</sup> and October 2nd? Yes No

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Signature

Date

***Please include your resume with this application form.***