*PREPARING FOR FAMILY MEDIATION*

The following materials are provided to help you prepare for your upcoming mediation.

Please take some time to consider the potential issues that will be discussed and decided during your mediation sessions(s). These questions are designed to start you thinking about your child’s/children’s needs, interests and concerns.

This information is specifically for you to be better prepared to begin the mediation process. You will not be required to share your specific answers during the mediation session if you are not comfortable doing so.

**ISSUES TO CONSIDER PRIOR TO MEDIATION**

* transportation
* child’s/children’s activities
* schooling
* discipline
* holidays/special family occasions/vacation periods
* living arrangements of child/children
* child’s/children’s health
* religious training

What are your wishes for your child/children in the next 5-10 years?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

How has your child/children dealt with the current situation (residing in one household; visiting in the other)?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

How can you make this situation easier for your child/children?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

What is special/unique about your child/children?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Who cares or would care for the child/children in your home?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Does the child/children have any siblings regarded as brothers or sisters, or is the child/children living with other children?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________
What daily activities, outside the home, are important to your child/children?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Describe your relationship with your child/children.
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Describe your child’s/children’s relationship with the adults in the other party’s home.
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Describe your child’s/children’s relationship with the other adults in your home.
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Describe your current relationship with the other party to this mediation?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

What are the other party’s strengths as a parent?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

What are your strengths as a parent?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any concerns about your child/children spending time with the other party or any members of his/her household? If yes, what?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

What are your needs as you parent this/these child/children in the future?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

What problems, if any, do you anticipate dealing with any agreement we may reach in mediation?
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________