Preventing Homelessness with Mediation
Building Dialogue Within Families

Welcome

Presented by:
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UK Mediation
Overview

• Family Breakdown and Homelessness: the Challenge
• Where does Mediation Come In
• How Does it Work?
• Making the Most of Mediation in This Setting
Family Breakdown and Homelessness
The Challenge
The Challenge

Well over half of people accepted as homeless by local authorities became homeless because of relationship breakdown or being asked to leave by friends or family*

*SHELTER (2007) ‘HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND MEDIATION’
How does conflict lead to homelessness?

**Conflict or abuse between parents/carers**

**The Young Person**

Pushing Boundaries

**Parents/carers don’t know/care what the young person is up to**

***Parents/carers mental health impacting on the young person***

** around 130,000 children and young people live with high risk of domestic abuse CAADA [2012]**

*** around a quarter of young people accessing Centrepoint’s services have mental health problems (Centrepoint, 2016)***
Where does mediation come in?
Where does mediation come in?

Setting an environment for family members to come up with their own workable solutions for how the young person will either:

• Integrate better with the family home, or
• Leave with dignity and move to an alternative setting where they safe, secure and supported
How can Mediation be Provided?

Usually through agencies like:

• Nightstop
• DePaul UK
• St. Basil’s
• Barnardo’s
• Local Authorities (Family Group Conferencing)
• Community Mediation Services
How Does it Work?
How Does it Work? 1.

**Voluntary**
You’re not forced to take part

**Impartial**
No blaming or finger-wagging

**Confidential** (within limits)
You get to say what you like
How Does it Work? 2.

• Both sides get to hear how their own words and behaviours have impacted on the other: empathy builds

• Both sides get a chance to explain their motivations to the other

• The unsayable gets said

• Collaboration and a future-focused plan
Making the most of Mediation in this Setting
Making the Most of Mediation in this Setting

1. Offer mediation early on. Don’t leave it until communication has broken down

2. Ensure that it is voluntary and is seen to be voluntary. People really resist being made to do something against their will

3. Stay truly impartial. People don’t want you to judge, take sides, or tell them what to do.
How Can UK Mediation Help?

1. Our renowned **2-day Mediation Skills** course, designed specifically for intra-family applications

2. Our **nationally accredited training course** to qualify and accredit you as a mediator for family and homelessness settings

3. External **mediation**: on-demand, independent, impartial and professional
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Thanks for joining us
Any questions?
Upcoming webinars
www.ukmediation.net/webinars

When Workplace Romances Go Wrong!
16 February 2018, 12:00
Intimate relationships between co-workers can have negative consequences, both for those involved and the rest of the team.

Social Media’s Role in Interpersonal Conflict
09 March 2018, 12:00
Services such as Facebook and Twitter are part of many people’s everyday lives. When people are in conflict, they can be misused.

Becoming a Workplace Mediator
20 April 2018, 12:00
A comprehensive webinar on becoming a professional workplace mediator, building your reputation, growing your experience and establishing credibility.
Upcoming courses
www.ukmediation.net/training

• LONDON:
  • 29th January - 2nd February
  • 12th - 16th March
  • 14th - 18th May 2018

• MANCHESTER:
  • 11th - 15th June

• BIRMINGHAM:
  • 26th February - 2nd March

• NOTTINGHAM:
  • 15th - 19th October
How Mediation Works:
A relational view of conflict resolution

Do keep in touch...

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