

M.O.D.E.

(Mediation Orientation Divorce Education)

Dear Parent:

As a result in recent changes in state law and local court rules, each parent involved in a divorce case involving children or a child custody modification matter **must** attend an Education Class for Separating and/or Divorcing Parents prior to their trial or hearing date.

Coastal Center has designed an informative class based on time tested and proven educational curriculums for separating and/or divorcing families with children.

LIVING APART AS MOM & DAD

This class is designed to assist parents in helping their children manage the impact of the divorce and separation of their parents, help parents plan for current and future needs of the children, and issues which need to be considered when putting together a parenting plan. Participation in this class is **required of parents seeking a divorce**. How parents apply the information they receive in this class to their particular situation through mediation or with their attorney is their choice.

The classes will specifically cover the following information:

- Ways in which families typically experience divorce, with a focus on making distinctions between effects of divorce on parents and on children, and the relationships between parents and children.
- Issues of “Separation & Loss” as they impact on children as well as parents.
- The risk children are placed in for emotional, behavioral and school problems as as a result of divorce.
- Signs and symptoms of children who are under stress and specific parenting procedures or techniques used to address these problems.
- An understanding of the needs of children, over time, living with separated or divorced parents, and what their needs are as they enter and pass through different developmental stages and benchmarks.
- The importance, and the “how to”, of parental cooperation.
- Teaching parents how to deal with conflict or disagreement in appropriate ways so as to benefit the needs of the children and not create more stress or problems caused by children being “caught” between their parents.
- The effects on children of “bad mouthing” the other parent and other forms of abuse.
- A review of the available community resources to families who are going through transitions and change.

Living Apart as Mom & Dad will be presented as a four hour class. Presentations will be made by staff who have received training and experience in presenting this material.

To sign up for this class in Coos County call Coastal Center at (541) 267-2113. To sign up for this class in Curry County call Coastal Center at (541) 267-3113 or the Curry Circuit Court Clerk’s Office at (541) 247-4511.

