

## **FREE PERMANENCY MEDIATION TRAINING FALL 2023**

**Hybrid training: In-Person and Virtual components**

**Are you a trained mediator?<sup>1</sup> Do you have experience working in or with the Child Welfare System? Do you want to help children achieve a safe, stable, permanent home? Consider being a Permanency Mediator.**

Permanency Mediation is an advanced mediation model for trained mediators with child welfare experience. We use **two** unique approaches to mediate a permanent plan for a child in foster care. The Family Consultation Team (FCT) approach addresses what needs to occur for the child to return home, while simultaneously considering an alternative permanent plan (guardianship or adoption), if reunification is not possible. The FCT mediation unites parents, extended family, social workers, attorneys, and other service providers in a non-adversarial permanency planning process. When the goal is not reunification, the Cooperative Permanency Planning (CPP) approach uses a collaborative process to facilitate building a relationship between parents and foster parents as they work together to develop a permanent plan for the child's future.

### **Training Program Design**

#### *Learn*

- Specific permanency mediation skill building in the family consultation team process,
- How to assess the child's needs for safety, support, continuity of relationships and permanence,
- How to engage youth in permanency planning,
- Clinical and legal issues involved in working with participants in child welfare cases,
- Elements of cooperative open adoption agreements and guardianship agreements,
- Kinship and guardianship issues.

This 36-hour hybrid training emphasizes interactive participation and encourages "learning by doing." Training will take place in person for Saturday sessions and virtually for weeknight sessions. It includes a mixture of theory and practice that enhances the skills of the participants and provides a variety of learning techniques that reflect sensitivity to individual learning styles. Also included are role plays with individual feedback and group debriefing. Training concludes with a mentoring case under the direction of a qualified mentor and regional supervisor.

***DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION – 44 Portland St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Worcester, MA***

*In-person training sessions will be consistent with CDC recommendations*

*In person sessions Saturday, October 14, 21, 28 and Nov 4 10:00 am-5:00 pm*

*Virtual Zoom sessions Wed. and Thurs: Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26 and Nov. 1, 2 5:30 pm-8:00 pm*

**For more information or to register e-mail: [PermMediation@plummeryouthpromise.org](mailto:PermMediation@plummeryouthpromise.org)**

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<sup>1</sup> A Basic mediation training is a prerequisite for this training

\*This FREE training is sponsored by the Trial Court