

WAKEFIELD

Partners for Positive Co-Parenting, Riverside Community Care, 328 Main Street, Suite 304, (781) 246-2010, Contact: Coordinator

WALTHAM

Parents Apart, The Divorce Center, Inc., West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, 84 South St., (888) 434-8787, Contact: Coordinator, Website: www.thedivorcecenter.org

Parents Apart, The Divorce Center, Inc. Brandeis University, Olin-Sang Bldg., Classroom 124, 415 South St., (888) 434-8787, Contact: Coordinator, Website: www.thedivorcecenter.org

WARE

CHD's Parents & Children in Divorce Program (PACD) offered bi-monthly at Mary Lane Hospital, 85 South Street, (413)-737-4718, Contact: John Maloney, Website: chd.org

WATERTOWN

Families Divided, DivorceStep Watertown High School, 50 Columbia St., (978) 443-3262, Contact: Michele Diamond, Website: www.DivorceStep.com

WEST SPRINGFIELD

CHD's Parents & Children in Divorce Program (PACD), monthly at 246 Park Street, (413) 737-4718, Contact: John Maloney, Website: CHD.org

WESTBOROUGH

Divorce that Works for Children, Parenting Solutions, 6 Colonial Drive, (508) 366-7557, Contact: Sylvia Sirignano or Glenn Smith

Children Cope with Divorce, Burroughs JCC, 45 Oak Street, (508) 755-3101, Contact: Kristy Fiorillo, Website: www.jfsworcester.org [2 sessions of 2.5 hours each]

WESTMINSTER

Reducing the Effects of Divorce, CO-PE trainings, Gardner 7th Day Adventist Church, 100 Colony Road, (978)266-0234, Contact: Arthur Baxter, Website: www.copetrainings.com

WESTON

Families Divided, DivorceStep, First Parish Church, 349 Boston Post Road (978) 443-3262, Contact: Michele Diamond, Website: www.DivorceStep.com

WORCESTER

Parents Apart, University of Mass. Medical Center, 55 Lake Avenue North, (508) 793-6336, Contact: Intake Coordinator

Children Cope with Divorce, Jewish Family Service of Worcester, 646 Salisbury St., (508) 755-3101, Contact: Kristy Fiorillo, Website: www.jfsworcester.org [2 sessions of 2.5 hours each]

Parents Apart, Family Services of Central Massachusetts, 31 Harvard St., (508) 756-4646, Contact: Intake Department, Website: www.fscm.org

Consider the Children, Divorce Education, Inc., Relationship Institute @ 6 Melville Street, (508) 435-4745 or (508) 853-7373, Contact: Diane Ferkler or Samuel Chiancola

***Programs Offered in Spanish

FI TCHBURG

Reducing the Effects of Divorce, CO-PE trainings, Fitchburg Fire Department, 33 North Street, (508) 243-3464, Contact: Marta Medina

LAWRENCE

Divorce & Its Impact on Children's Development, Northern Essex Community College, 45 Franklin Street, (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT

STANDING ORDER 4-08 PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

This court finds that the interests of the minor children of parties appearing before it would be well served by educating their parents about children's emotional needs and the effects of divorce on child behavior and development.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

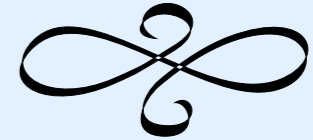
1. All parties to a divorce action in which there are minor children, are ordered to attend and participate in an approved Parent Education Program (hereinafter, program) except as herein provided. This requirement applies to divorces brought under Ch. 208 sec. 1 (fault divorces); and Ch. 208 secs. 1A and 1B (irretrievable breakdown) and as ordered by a judge of this court in an action to establish paternity, complaints for modification or contempt or in any case involving visitation, custody, or support of minor children.
2. Attendance at an approved program is mandatory for parties to such actions unless waived by the court. Parties must register with an approved provider within sixty days (60) days of service of the original complaint upon the original defendant and attend the next available session.
3. No Pre-trial Conference or Trial will be held by the court until the court receives a certificate of attendance from an approved program for each party, or waives the requirement. An uncontested divorce hearing may be scheduled pending attendance if the parties file confirmations of registration with the court and so long as both parties complete the program prior to the hearing. A Pre-Trial Conference in a contested case may be similarly scheduled so long as the parties complete the program prior to the Pre-Trial Conference.
4. The court may waive the attendance requirement upon motion, with notice, for one or both parties. Waivers will only be granted upon a demonstrable showing of chronic and severe violence which negates safe parental communication; language barriers; institutionalization or other unavailability of a party; failure of the other party to complete a program; unavailability of an approved program in the county in which the original divorce brought under Ch. 208 sec. 1 and Ch. 208 secs. 1A and 1B was filed; or where justice otherwise indicates.
5. Sanctions for failure to register with an approved program within sixty (60) days of service of the original complaint upon the original defendant may be imposed by the court.
6. The parties must attend programs approved by the Chief Justice of the Probate and Family Court. Attendance at an approved program, wherever held within the Commonwealth, is permissible. Programs which are not approved by the Chief Justice will not satisfy the attendance requirement. Program vendors will ensure that parties to an action do not attend the same session of any program. Lists of approved programs shall be available at all Registries of Probate and at <http://www.state.ma.us/courts/courtsandjudges/courts/probateandfamilycourt/selfhelp.html>
7. A pamphlet entitled Parent Education Programs: Understanding the Effect of Divorce on Children, which lists the approved program providers shall be given to the plaintiff or his/her attorney upon the filing of a complaint for divorce involving minor children. The plaintiff or his/her attorney shall serve a copy of said pamphlet along with the complaint and summons to the person authorized to make service pursuant to Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. 4(c).
8. The parties shall each pay \$80.00 to the provider in advance of the program to offset the cost of materials and facilitators.
9. A party may pay a reduced fee of \$5.00 to the provider if that party has submitted and had allowed an "Affidavit of Indigency and Request for Waiver, Substitution or State Payment of Fees and Costs." This form is prescribed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court pursuant to G.L. c. 261, § 27B, promulgated March, 2003 and is available at the Registry of the Probate and Family Court. The party must submit a copy of this form to the provider when registering for a program at a reduced fee of \$5.00.
10. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the authority of any Probate and Family Court justice to order parties to attend an approved program in any case involving visitation, custody, or support of minor children.
11. All information submitted in compliance with the research component of the program shall be the work product of the Probate and Family Court Administrative Office. The material is for research purposes only and shall not be discoverable.

April 7, 2011

Paula M. Carey
Chief Justice

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Understanding the Effect of Divorce on Children



PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

John Adams Courthouse

One Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

<http://www.mass.gov/courts>

Revised: June, 2013
Approved Program Providers
All programs are 2 sessions of 2 ½ hrs each unless noted otherwise

ACTON
Changing Families, Changing Times, Boundaries Therapy Center, Clubhouse at Nagog Condominiums, (978) 263-4878 extension 230, Contact: Helen Frey

AGAWAM
Parent Education Program, Behavioral Health Network, Agawam Counseling Center, 30 Southwick St., Feeding Hills (413) 786-6410, Contact: Coordinator

ATTLEBORO
Parents Forever, Family Service Assoc., Kennedy-Donovan Center, Inc. 25 Forest Street, ., (508) 677-3822, Contact: Sue Roque, Website: www.frfsa.org [2 sessions of 3 hours each]

AUBURN
Parents Forever, Pakachoag Church, 203 Pakachoag Street, (508) 798-6699, Contact: Karen Feeney, Website: www.eastpointservices.com

BEVERLY
**Parent Education and Custody Effectiveness-PEACE, North Shore Counseling Center, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 324S, (978) 922-2280, Contact: Dr. Laurence Kelly, Website: www.nsc-inc.com

BILLERICA
Divorce and Its Impact on Children's Development, First Parish Church, 7 Concord Road, (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

BOSTON
Family Healthy Choices Parent Education Program, Massachusetts General Hospital, Yawkey Bldg. Fourth Floor, Room 4A , (978) 887-6342, Contact: Jill Levine, Website: www.familyhealthychoices.org

Family Healthy Choices Parent Education Program, Tufts Medical Center, 8th Floor Atrium, 800 Washington Street, Wolff Auditorium, (978) 887-6342, Contact: Jill Levine, Website: www.familyhealthychoices.org

BRAINTREE
Parents Apart, The Divorce Center, Inc., Braintree Health South Hospital, 250 Pond Street, (888) 434-8787, Contact: Coordinator, Website: www.thedivorcecenter.org

BROCKTON
Parents Apart, Mass Bay Counseling, Massasoit Community College, 1 Massasoit Avenue, (617) 786-3027, Contact: Elisabeth Rich

“Set a Good Example” (SAGE) Northeast Health Services, 231 Main Street, (508) 586-2660, Contact: Jean Adams or Nelson Cardona (2 sessions, First session 2 hours, Second 3 hours)

BROOKLINE
For the Sake of the Children, Center for Families in Transition, Brookline PDHQ, 350 Washington Street, 857-373-9011, Contact: Robin Zucker, Website: www.cftclass.org or parentclass@yahoo.com

Parenting Through Divorce: Supporting the Child, Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis, 1581 Beacon Street, (617) 277-3915, Contact: William Sharp, Website: www.bgsp.edu

CAMBRIDGE
For the Sake of the Children, Center for Families in Transition, Cambridge College, 1000 Mass. Ave., 857-373-9011, Contact: Robin Zucker, Website: www.cftclass.org or parentclass@yahoo.com

CHELMSFORD
Moving Forward, Life Transitions, Inc. 10 Billerica Road, (978) 649-6255, Contact: Robert DiMeo, Website: www.lifetransitionsinc.net

DANVERS
Family Healthy Choices Parent Education Program, Peabody Inst. Library, (Danvers Town Library), Gordon Room, 15 Sylvan Street, (978) 887-6342, Contact: Jill Levine, Website: www.familyhealthychoices.org

DARTMOUTH
Parents Forever, UMASS Dartmouth, Main Building, 285 Old Westport Road, No. Dartmouth, (508) 677-3822, Contact: Sue Roque, Website: www.frfsa.org

DEDHAM
Parents Apart, Child & Family Psychological Services, Inc., Dedham Community Association, 671 High Street, (781) 551-0999 ext. 503, Contact: Coordinator, Website: www.cfpsych.org

Focusing on Our Children Divorce Education Services, Dedham Community House, 671 High Street, (781) 237-5064, Contact: Ann Steele

FALL RIVER
Parents Forever, Family Service Association, 101 Rock Street, (508) 677-3822, Contact: Sue Roque, Website: www.frfsa.org [2 sessions of 3 hours each]

FI TCHBURG
Reducing the Effects of Divorce, CO-PE trainings, Seven Hills Family Support Center, 1460 John Fitch Highway, (978)266-0234, Contact: Arthur Baxter, Website: www.copetrainings.com

Reducing the Effects of Divorce, CO-PE trainings, Fitchburg Fire Department, 33 North St., (978) 266-0234 Contact: Arthur Baxter, (SPANISH)

FRAMINGHAM
Consider the Children, Divorce Education, Inc., Mass Bay Community College, 19 Flagg Drive, (508) 435-4745, Contact: Diane Ferkler or Samuel Chiancola

GARDNER
Reducing the Effects of Divorce, CO-PE trainings, Gardner 7th Day Adventist Church, 100 Colony Road, Westminster, MA., (978) 266-0234, Contact: Arthur Baxter, Website: www.copetrainings.com

GREENFIELD
Families in Transition (FIT), Franklin County Bar Association, Franklin Medical Center, 164 High St., (413) 773-9839, Contact: Christine Baronas, Website: www.franklincountybar.org

HANOVER
Parents Apart, Marvista Psychological Associates, PC, South Shore Vocational High School, (781) 383-0860, Contact: Selma Ingber or Charles Mundhenk, Website: www.marvistapsych.com

HAVERHILL
Positive Co-Parenting in Difficult Times, Psychotherapy Associates of North Reading, Northern Essex Community College, 100 Elliot St., (978) 664-2566, ext. 5 Contact: Dr. Donna Whipple, Website: www.panr.net

HULL
The Door is Open Counseling Center 485 Nantasket Ave. Unit C, (781) 925-2423, Contact: Joyce Dolberg Rowe, Website: www.doorisopen.net

HYANNIS
*Set A Good Example (SAGE), MSPCC, 206 Breeds Hill Road, (508) 775-0275, Contact: Kirsten Abrahamson, [2 sessions 5:30 - 8 each

Parents Apart
Mass. Bay Counseling, 455 Iyanough Rd. , VFW Post 2578, (617) 786-3027, Contact: Elisabeth Rich

LAWRENCE
Divorce & Its Impact on Children's Development, Northern Essex Community College, 45 Franklin Street, (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

Putting Children First, Family Service, Inc., Merrimack College, (978) 327-6650,, Contact: Rosey Gonzalez, Website: www.familyserviceinc.com

LEXINGTON
Parents Apart, Lexington Institute, Inc., 3 Militia Drive, (781) 860-0600, Contact: Dr. Paul Bombara

LITTLETON
Moving Forward, Life Transitions, Inc., 461 King St., (978) 649-6255 , Contact: Robert DiMeo, Website: www.lifetransitionsinc.net

LOWELL
Divorce & Its Impact on Children's Development, Pawtucket Congregational Church, 15 Mammoth Road, (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

LYNN
Divorce and Its Impact on Children's Development, Lynn Housing Authority and Neighborhood Community Room, 10 Church Street, (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

MARLBOROUGH
Consider the Children, Divorce Education Inc., Marlborough High School, 431 Bolton Street, (508) 435-4745, Contact: Diane Ferkler or Samuel Chiancola

MEDFORD
Positive Co-Parenting in Difficult Times, Psychotherapy Associates of North Reading, Medford High School, 489 Winthrop St., (978) 664-2566, ext. 5, Contact: Dr. Donna Whipple, Website: www.panr.net

MELROSE
Divorce and Its Impact on Children's Development, Melrose Highlands, Congregational Church, 355 Franklin St., (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

MILFORD
Consider the Children, Divorce Education, Inc., Milford High School, 31 West Fountain St., (508) 435-4745 or (508) 473-4674, Contact: Diane Ferkler or Samuel Chiancola

NEEDHAM
Focusing on Our Children, Divorce Education Services, Deaconess-Glover Hospital, 148 Chestnut St., (781) 237-5064, Contact: Ann Steele

NEWBURYPORT
Family Healthy Choices Parenting Education, Newburyport High School, Classroom 310, 214 High St, (978) 887-6342, Contact: Jill Levine, Website: www.familyhealthychoices.org

NORTH READING
Positive Co-Parenting in Difficult Times, Psychotherapy Assoc. of North Reading, E. Little School, 7 Barberry Lane , (978) 664-2566, ext. 5 Contact: Dr. Donna Whipple, Website: www.panr.net

NORTHAMPTON
Parents and Children in Transition (PACT), Hampshire County Bar Association, Hall of Records Community Room, 33 King St., (413) 586-4597, Contact: Rebecca Ryan, Website: www.hampshirebar.org

NORTHBRIDGE
Parents Forever, Whitin Community Center, 60 Main Street, (508) 798-6699, Contact: Karen Feeney, Website: www.eastpointservices.com

NORWOOD
Parents Apart, Child & Family Psychological Services, Inc., Dr. Philip Coakley Middle School in library, 1315 Washington Street., or Norwood Education Center/Savage Center, 275 Prospect Street, Room 218/219, (781) 551-0999, Contact: Coordinator, Website: www.cfpsych.org

OAKS BLUFF
Parents Apart, 111 Edgartown Road., (508) 693-7900 ext. 225, Contact: Joanne DeBettencourt, Website: www.mvcommunityservices.com

PITTSFIELD
Families in Transition, Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, 333 East Street , (413) 629-1061, Contact: Intake Coordinator, Karen Wasileski

PLYMOUTH
Parents Apart, Marvista Psychological Associates, PC, Plymouth North High School, 41 Obery Street, (781) 383-0860, Contact: Selma Ingber or Charles Mundhenk

QUINCY
Parents Apart, Mass Bay Counseling, Quincy High School, 52 Coddington St., (617) 786-3027, Contact: Elisabeth Rich

The Door is Open Counseling Center, 1245 Hancock Street #25, (781) 925-2423, Contact: Joyce Dolberg Rowe, Website: www.doorisopen.net

SALEM
Divorce & Its Impact on Children's Development, Grace Church of Salem, 385 Essex St., (978) 745-7808, Contact: Madeline Segal

SANDWICH
For the Sake of the Children, Center for Families in Transition, Sandwich Library, 142 Main Street, 857-373-9011 Contact: Robin Zucker, Website: www.cftclass.org or parentclass@yahoo.com

SHREWSBURY
Parents Forever, St. Mary's School, 16 Summer Street, (508) 798-6699, Contact: Karen Feeney, www.eastpointservices.com

SOUTHBRIDGE
Parents Apart, George B. Wells Human Service Center, Harrington Memorial Hospital, 29 Pine St., (508) 765-9167, Contact: Coordinator

SPRINGFIELD
Parent Education Program, Behavioral Health Network, Child Guidance Clinic, 110 Maple St., (413) 732-7419, Contact: Coordinator

CHD's Parents & Children in Divorce (PACD) monthly at Baystate Health Systems, 3300 Main Street, (413) 737-4718, Contact: John Maloney, Website: CHD.org

Parents in Cooperation, Square One, 947 Main Street, (413)-735-1719, Contact: Barry Krimsky

TAUNTON
*Family Service Association, Silver City Galleria Mall, Community Room, 2 Galleria Mall Drive, (508) 677-3822, Contact: Sue Roque, Website: www.frfsa.com [2 sessions of 3 hours each]