

Why Education?

Co-parenting families have a unique set of challenges. They also have opportunities to build strengths. For children it may mean adapting to a new family arrangement, moving between households, or living with a single parent or another caregiver.

Transition to new family arrangements can be tough. It may be a time of sadness, loss, and anger. For parents, it may mean transitioning through divorce or separation while finding ways to co-parent peacefully and effectively.



One thing is clear: ongoing conflict between parents after divorce or separation is associated with poor outcomes for children.

There are many ways co-parents can reduce conflict and help children thrive in a co-parenting family. Whether you are transitioning after a divorce or separation or you have been co-parenting for some time, there's good news...

C caught in the Middle:

Common issues in which children feel caught in the middle:

- Carrying messages to the other parent
- Loyalty conflicts caused by “put downs” of the other parent
- Dealing with money matters
- Being quizzed about the other parent’s life

YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILDREN
WORK THROUGH TRANSITION AND
FIND WAYS TO CO-PARENT
SUCCESSFULLY TO CREATE A
HAPPY, HEALTHY FUTURE

How to Schedule

Registration is Required of All Participants through the University of Wisconsin– Extension.

**ASHLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS CALL:
(715) 682-7017**

**BAYFIELD COUNTY RESIDENTS CALL:
(715) 373-6104**

**All others call either number above.
711 for WI Relay (TDD)**

Indicate the session of your choice. Schedule early. If you are required to take this class because you are divorcing, the class must be completed prior to your final divorce hearing. If you have been ordered to participate in mediation, your class must be completed prior to mediation.

Parents are encouraged to attend separate classes. Instructor permission is required for parents to attend the same class and both parents must agree that attending together will be in the best interest of their children and will enhance their learning experience. Priority will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

How to Pay

Fee: \$30 per parent. Cash, checks or money orders will be accepted in advance or at time of class. (Exact amount only, no change made.)

All checks and money orders (from Ashland, Bayfield, or other county residents) must be made payable to:

**Ashland County Clerk of Court
201 West Main Street
Courthouse, Room 307
Ashland, WI 54806**

Successful Co-Parenting

Education for
Divorcing or Separating Parents

JANUARY– JUNE, 2017



LW
Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

2017 WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE

Successful Co-Parenting

Month	Date	Day	Time	Location
January	17	Tuesday	12:00pm—3:00pm	Ashland
February	23	Thursday	3:00pm—6:00pm	Washburn
March	15	Wednesday	5:30pm—8:30pm	Ashland
April	20	Thursday	12:00pm—3:00pm	Red Cliff
May	16	Tuesday	9:00am—12:00pm	Ashland
June	6	Tuesday	4:00pm—7:00pm	Washburn

Locations:

Ashland:

Ashland County Courthouse

201 West Main Street, Ashland
Third Floor - Jury Room No. 1

[Enter from the north entrance adjacent to parking lot.]

Washburn:

Bayfield County Courthouse

117 East Fifth Street, Washburn

Lower Level - Conference Room B,
[follow posted signs for class location.]

Red Cliff:

Red Cliff Community Health Center

36745 Aiken Road, Red Cliff

Educators:

Kathy Beekma

Heidi Ungrodt

Family Living Educators
Ashland and Iron Counties

Elizabeth Lexau

Family Living Educator
Bayfield County

“Makes you aware of things that can and will come up and how to deal with them without emotionally upsetting the children.”

— Parent participant



Reported results:

- ◆ Parents perceived the classes to be realistic and useful.
- ◆ Parents reported success in dramatically lowering exposure of their children to parental conflict.
- ◆ Parents completing the class were better able to work through how they would handle difficult child-related situations with their ex-spouses.



Parents will:

- 1 Become aware of the burdens and dilemmas of children caught in the middle of parental conflicts and problems at different ages.
- 2 Learn and practice new skills for positively interacting with their children and ex-spouse or partner.
- 3 Learn ways to communicate with and support children during difficult times, and encourage children to give parents feedback when problems occur.



“Excellent program. Opened my eyes to my kids’ point of view and the importance of a joint effort for my kids’ benefit.”
— Parent participant

UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.