

## **Mediators Institute of Ireland**

### **Additional Knowledge Requirements**

32 hours of knowledge based training for Family (Separating Couples) Mediation to Certified Level to be made up of the following modules/units:

**MODUL E 1** Family Law- 8 Hours

**MODUL E 2** Family Mediation Processes- 8 Hours

**MODUL E 3** Couple Dynamics- 4 Hours

**MODUL E 4** Domestic Abuse & Screening Process- 4 Hours

**MODUL E 5** Parenting- 4 Hours

**MODUL E 6** Child Protection- 4 Hours

The modules described below are designed for Mediators who have to date satisfactorily completed an MII accredited training programme (or equivalent), and are wishing to be approved to practise in family (separating couples) mediation.

### **MODULE 1: FAMILY LAW ( 8 hours )**

*Specific Learning Outcomes:*

- Current family law practices and recent judicial decisions in the area of family law.
- Domestic Abuse legislation,
- Child Protection legislation and procedure, Guardianship,
- Family Law Divorce Act,
- Children's' Act and other legal information.

### **MODULE 2 TITLE: FAMILY MEDIATION PROCESSES ( 8 hours )**

*Specific Learning Outcomes:*

#### **How to mediate around**

- The Family Home,
- The Parenting,
- Financial Issues
- Ongoing Financial Support,
- Property,
- Pensions,
- Succession,
- Negotiation and Drafting Agreements

### **MODULE 3 : COUPLE DYNAMICS (4 hours)**

#### **Provide a comprehensive understanding of:**

- The emotional journey of separation
- The intricacies of couple dynamics and how these can play out in the room.
- The deep sense of loss, guilt, failure, anger and distress that can accompany the breakdown of a relationship.
- How to identify/recognise the emotional needs of the individuals as they go through the process of separation.
- The skills required to help clients manage and deal with them in such a way that allows them to progress the mediation.

### **MODULE 4 : DOMESTIC ABUSE & SCREENING PROCESS (4 hours)**

#### *Specific Learning Outcomes:*

- To train the learner in the process of screening a couple for domestic abuse.
- To be able to identify the risks and dangers of power imbalance
- To be able to recognise the presence of domestic abuse even if is not divulged during screening.
- To enable the learner to feel comfortable with screening individuals for domestic abuse
- Know how to safely terminate the process for the safety of the parties concerned;
- Knowledge of the domestic abuse legislation, its application and sanctions.

### **MODULE 5: PARENTING (4 hours)**

#### *Specific Learning Outcomes:*

- Be able to facilitate parents drawing up parenting plans and negotiating future arrangements for their children.
- To help parents focus on the needs and interests of their children over and above their own
- Negotiate a way of communication that can make this as positive an experience for their children as possible.
- To make the learner aware of the place of the child in separation and the mediation process
- Show how he/she can help the parents negotiate the kind of relationship they will need to have going forward.
- Provide a brief resume of current research findings in relation to children and separation and divorce which will assist the Mediator in focussing parents on the needs of their children.
- Be able to help parents mediate a parenting plan,
- To be able to help parents to focus on the needs of the children and their own communication into the future.

## **MODULE 6: CHILD PROTECTION (4 hours)**

### *Specific Learning Outcomes:*

- To familiarise the learner with the legislation around child protection both nationally and in Europe.
- Inform the learner about policies and procedures that exist around child protection issues and how to implement them.
- Have a thorough understanding of the policies and procedures that exist and what is needed to carry them out.