



Dispute Resolution Newsletter

May 2024

Hello, dispute resolution colleagues-

In April, the Advisory Council on Dispute Resolution and KIPCOR sponsored case management primary training at [Sternberg Museum of Natural History](#) in Hays. The free two-day training prepared attendees to apply to be an [approved case manager](#). An impressive group of instructors came together to teach the course and included judges, experienced case managers, dispute resolution trainers, behavioral health specialists, and attorneys. Thank you to Judge Keven O’Grady, Judge Glenn Braun, Steve Henry, Sandy Nathan, Kirsten Zerger, and Ann Zimmerman for volunteering to train a new group of case managers.

The [Dispute Resolution Manual](#) written by the Advisory Council on Dispute Resolution explains case management as a “non-confidential dispute resolution process for highly conflicted parents where mediation has not been successful. Conflict in these families is evidenced by repetitive filings of motions, diminished parenting capacity to parent, or other dispute-resolution processes that are inappropriate for the family. A case manager helps the parties by providing a procedure, other than mediation, that facilitates negotiation of a plan for child custody, residency, or parenting time. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the case manager shall make recommendations to the court. This dispute resolution process is court-ordered, time-limited, and conducted by a Supreme Court Approved Case Manager.”

Sincerely,

Amanda Jacobsen
Director of Dispute Resolution

Dispute Resolution Renewal Season Update

The dispute resolution provider and program lists on the [Find a Dispute Resolution Provider or Program](#) webpage have been updated to include all renewal applications submitted through April 19, 2024. The list includes only providers who offer services to the general public.

Renewal applications must be postmarked by January 30 of each year to be considered timely. Under Supreme Court [Administrative Order 2020-FN-1](#), renewal applications postmarked after January 30 are assessed a \$25 reinstatement fee in addition to the renewal fee. If you have questions about submitting a late renewal application, email adr@kscourts.org.

Here are the current numbers of approved providers per approval category:

240	Core Mediators
73	Civil Mediators
162	Domestic Mediators
5	Juvenile Dependency Mediators
59	Parent-Adolescent Mediators
52	Domestic Conciliators
25	Parent Coordinators
26	Case Managers
43	Mentor Mediators

There are 10 [approved programs](#) that completed the approval process to verify they meet requirements and guidelines to be recommended to a court as an approved service provider.

2024 Training and Continuing Education Opportunities

The [Calendar of Approved Training](#) is regularly updated when trainers or programs submit training opportunities to the Office of Judicial Administration.



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To promote, encourage, and facilitate alternative dispute resolution services which are accessible and affordable.

— Advisory Council on Dispute Resolution mission statement