



PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Community: Cases are referred by the District Courts, D.A.'s offices, all Nassau and Suffolk Town, Village, and County police, and self referrals. Types of cases include neighbor disputes, employer/employee, trespassing, harassment, girlfriend/boyfriend disputes, criminal mischief, landlord/tenant, etc.

Civil Court/Small Claims: Cases are referred by the judiciary in District Courts (Hempstead, Lindenhurst, Huntington, Hauppauge, Ronkonkoma, and Patchogue) and Town and Village Courts (East Hampton, Southampton, Southampton Village, and Southold). Litigants are directed to the mediators who are on-site in each courthouse.

Family Court: Matters involving parent/child issues, PINS cases, juvenile delinquency matters, etc.

Special Education: In 1995, NYS legislation provided parents of children with special needs with mediation as part of their due process. Parents request mediation through their respective school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Issues include placement, related services, evaluations, etc.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services - Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCESS) formerly known as VESID: Conflict resolution services are provided to ACCESS recipients regarding issues relating to transition services, vocational rehabilitation, independent living services, and business services.

Early Intervention: Referred by the NYS Department of Health, parents of children with special needs from birth to three years of age are able to access mediation services. Issues include assessments, medical needs, etc.

Surrogate Decision Making Committee Program: Under the guidelines of the NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, we coordinate a panel of experts that obtain informed consent on behalf of persons with mental or developmental disabilities who have no legal surrogate and who need non-emergency major medical or dental care.

Youth Development Services: We provide peer mediation, diversity, and character education training, and after-school programming throughout Long Island, ranging from elementary to high school.

Lemon Law Arbitration: We administer the NYS Attorney General's lemon law arbitration program for consumers owning or leasing new and used automobiles. This also includes motorized wheel chairs and wear and tear on leased automobiles.

Conciliations: Through the JOBS initiative, we conciliate matters with recipients and the Nassau County DSS on issues regarding compliance.

Agricultural/Rural Development Loan Program: Referred through the US Department of Agriculture, we mediate cases involving loans or debts, neighbor complaints, small claims, labor problems, landlord/tenant, custody and visitation, divorce, farm business plan, and family farm succession.

Elder Care/Guardianship: Cases where familial conflict is exacting emotional or physical strain on the incapacitated person or the person alleged to be incapacitated. Specifically, in cases where there are disagreements with regards to visitation with incapacitated persons, issues of future residency, placement or care plans.

Custody & Visitation: Parents can work out all their child custody and visitation disagreements and avoid long-drawn-out litigation. Parents keep control of the outcome of their child custody case by not giving control over to the court or a judge.

Nassau County

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