

## *FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:*

### **1. How much does mediation cost?**

*Mediation is a free service for Nassau and Suffolk County residents.*

### **2. How long does mediation take?**

*Generally, participants find 1 to 3 sessions to be most helpful. Each session lasts approx. 2 hours.*

### **3. Do I have to participate in mediation?**

*Mediation is a voluntary process that encourages both seniors and their families to take part in the decision-making process.*

### **4. Why should I choose mediation and not go to court?**

*Mediation is a confidential, non-adversarial process that allows families to collectively make the decisions that are best for them.*

### **5. Do I need an attorney?**

*While an attorney is not needed at the mediation, it is recommended that you consult with one throughout the mediation process.*

### **6. Do we need to reach an agreement?**

*Participants are free to enter into agreements at their own choosing and will never be forced into reaching an agreement that they are not satisfied with.*

The **Long Island Dispute Resolution Centers (LIDRC)** is supported by the New York State Unified Court System, New York State Department of Education, New York State Attorney General's Office, Private and Corporate contributions.

**EAC Network has been providing human service programs in the fields of aging, youth, families, education, and criminal justice since 1969.**

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Long Island Dispute Resolution Centers



## **ELDER CARE MEDIATION**



**Long Island Dispute  
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## *WHY CHOOSE MEDIATION?*

EAC Network's Long Island Dispute Resolution Centers (LIDRC) are conflict resolution programs that assist families and elders with the difficult decision-making process of elder care related issues. Often, conflicts can arise between elder adults and their children or children caring for their elderly parents. Mediation provides the structure, comfort and safety necessary for participants to express concerns and have effective communication in making decisions that are best for all members of the family.



The goal of elder care mediation is to create a neutral setting in which the senior and their family members can voice their feelings and develop strategies that will allow for them to work together on important decisions in the future.

## *WHAT ISSUES ARE HANDLED?*

1. Estate Planning
2. Housing / Living Arrangements
3. Communication Issues
4. Family Relationships
5. Medical Treatment
6. Safety Issues
7. Lifestyle Choices
8. Caregiving
9. Financial Management
10. End of Life Decisions

## *WHO ARE THE MEDIATORS?*

1. Trained specifically for elder care related issues and have years of mediation experience working with families
2. Neutral and Impartial
3. Facilitate meaningful conversation between family members and seniors
4. Listen to, identify, and clarify issues and concerns
5. Give everyone an equal opportunity to be heard
6. Assist in creating agreements suitable to the needs of all family members
7. Promote ongoing communication and encourage cooperative decision-making



## *WHO PARTICIPATES IN MEDIATION?*

The LIDRC strives to incorporate all family members into the mediation process, including the elderly adult if possible. If obstacles exist that prevent a family member's participation, the LIDRC will explore ways to ensure everyone's needs are accommodated.



*LET MEDIATION GUIDE YOU  
TOWARDS A PROSPEROUS  
FUTURE IN THE NEXT  
CHAPTER OF YOUR LIFE*