

## **Parent Education & Mediation Fund (PEMF) Grant Recipients (July 2018 - June 2019)**

The Tennessee Legislature enacted Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 4 of the Tennessee Code Annotated to promote continuing parenting arrangements for families involved in divorce, legal separation, annulment, or separate maintenance proceedings, and for families that are involved in any other custody matters. Such arrangements reinforce the fundamental importance of the parent-child relationship to the welfare of the child. In order to help parents receive the necessary education and alternative dispute resolution services, the Tennessee Legislature established the Divorcing Parent Education and Mediation Fund (T.C.A. § 6-6-413).

### **West Tennessee**

#### **The Exchange Club Family Center of the Mid-South, Inc. – Memphis serving Shelby County**

Jennifer Balink, Executive Director  
2180 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38104  
[jbalink@exchangeclub.net](mailto:jbalink@exchangeclub.net)  
Phone: (901) 276-2200

This program provides supervised visitation services in English and Spanish on a pro bono or reduced fee basis to low income and indigent parties in Shelby County Juvenile and Circuit Courts when one parent is ordered by the court to have all visits with the children closely monitored by professional staff. This program also provides information and assistance with the parenting plans to low income and indigent parents attending court-mandated divorce/co-parenting workshop available in English and Spanish. This program provides mediation services in English and Spanish at no or low cost to parents referred to the Center by the Shelby County Juvenile and Circuit Courts who are going through a divorce or other custody dispute.

#### **Le Dujour H.E.R.O. Village of the Mid-South, Inc. - Memphis serving Shelby County**

Vachenzia M. McKinney, Chief Executive Officer  
3750 Hacks Cross Road, Ste. 102-218  
Memphis, TN 38125  
[ledujourinc@gmail.com](mailto:ledujourinc@gmail.com)  
Phone: (901) 443-0913

This program will provide group parent education sessions centered around resolving family conflict and promoting the parent-child relationship for parties going through a divorce or other custody issue in Shelby County Circuit Court.

#### **Madison County Juvenile Court - Jackson serving Madison County**

Judge Christy Little  
110 Irby Street  
PO Box 1504  
Jackson, TN 38302  
[clittle@madisoncountyttn.gov](mailto:clittle@madisoncountyttn.gov)  
Phone: (731) 423-6148

This program is administered by a Pro Se Specialist who assists self-represented parents with parenting plan issues in navigating the court system in the 26th Judicial District Juvenile Court in order to reduce adversarial proceedings and increase financial security for parents and children. The Pro Se Specialist will also provide self-represented parties with resources including forms, community resource information, as well as referrals to DHS offices, pro bono attorneys, and pro bono or reduced fee mediators.

**Tomorrow's Hope PMC – Paris  
serving Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry**

Cheryl Conner, Executive Director

211 North Brewer Street

Paris, TN 38242

[tomorrowshopepmc@gmail.com](mailto:tomorrowshopepmc@gmail.com), [maddox@wk.net](mailto:maddox@wk.net)

Phone: (731) 642-0600

This program provides a Breakthrough Parenting Program Class in English and Spanish at no cost to those parties that are low income and indigent only in order to help resolve family conflict in divorce, post-divorce, and other custody matters in the 24th Judicial District's Juvenile, Chancery, and Circuit Courts. This program also serves inmates with family conflicts in the Henry County jail through parent education events.

**Middle Tennessee**

**The Family Center - Nashville  
serving Davidson County**

Laurie Hoffma, Senior Development Manager

139 Thompson Lane

Nashville, TN 37211

[lhoffma@familycentertn.org](mailto:lhoffma@familycentertn.org)

Phone: (615) 333-2644

This program provides Positive Parenting skills classes at no or low cost to low income and indigent parents in the Wedgewood-Houston neighborhood going through a divorce or other custody issue in the 20th Judicial District's Juvenile and Circuit Courts. This program will also promote awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) by administering the ACE Questionnaire as well as the Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory during group parenting classes.

**Kymari House - Murfreesboro  
serving Cannon and Rutherford Counties**

Tonya Hobbs, Co-Founder

P.O. Box 12306

Murfreesboro, TN 37129

[tonya@kymarihouse.org](mailto:tonya@kymarihouse.org)

Phone: (615) 594-1522

This program administers a court-ordered supervised, therapeutic visitation program for low income and indigent parties going through a divorce or other custody matters in the 16th Judicial District Juvenile and Circuit Courts.

**The Mediation Center - Columbia  
serving Maury County**

Beth Tarter, Executive Director

One Public Square, Suite 10

Columbia, TN 38401

[Beth@columbiamediation.org](mailto:Beth@columbiamediation.org)

Phone: (931) 380-5583

This program administers a Mediator of the Day program in Maury County Juvenile and Chancery Courts to assist indigent self-represented litigants in custody matters in the 22nd Judicial District.

**Mid South Mediation Services – Hohenwald  
serving Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Perry, Wayne, and Williamson**

Mary Ellen Bowen, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 13  
Hohenwald, TN 38462  
[Vorp7@hotmail.com](mailto:Vorp7@hotmail.com)  
Phone: (931) 796-0487

This program provides parenting education seminars to low income and indigent parents through custody disputes and family conflict in Juvenile and Circuit Courts in the 21st and 22nd Judicial Districts. This program also provides intake, screening, and mediation services on a pro bono or reduced fee basis to low income and indigent parties in Juvenile and Circuit Courts for the 21st and 22nd Judicial Districts for parties identified in the service area who are required to participate in mediation according to Parenting Plan Law or who are voluntarily entering mediation because of knowledge of the Parenting Plan Law. This program also administers a Mediator of the Day program in Williamson County by providing a Rule 31 Listed Mediator in Juvenile and Circuit Courts in order to promote parent education classes and mediation services.

**Nashville Conflict Resolution Center - Nashville  
serving Davidson and Rutherford Counties**

Sara Figal, Executive Director  
4732 West Longdale Drive  
Nashville, TN 372211  
[sara@nashvilleconflict.org](mailto:sara@nashvilleconflict.org)  
Phone: (615) 333-8400

This program provides mediation services Parenting Plans and parentage issues for low income and indigent parties with minor children going through a divorce, post-divorce, or other custody matter in Davidson and Rutherford County Juvenile and Circuit Courts.

**Williamson County Juvenile Court - Franklin  
serving Williamson County**

Chris Holz, Assistant Director  
408 Century Court  
Franklin, TN 37064  
[ChrisHolz@williamson-tn.org](mailto:ChrisHolz@williamson-tn.org)  
Phone: 615-790-5812

Williamson County Juvenile Court to serve as a direct referral source for Erika's Safe Place to ensure parties in Williamson County Juvenile Court with court-ordered supervised visitation receive an increase in parenting time. Erika's Safe Place will provide the court with feedback on the effectiveness and frequency of the visits in order to reduce family conflict and improve the parent/child relationship.

## East Tennessee

### **Community Mediation Center – Knoxville serving Knox County**

Jackie Kittrell, Executive Director  
912 S. Gay Street, Suite L-300  
Knoxville, TN 37902

[Jackie.kittrell@gmail.com](mailto:Jackie.kittrell@gmail.com)

Phone: (865) 594-1879

This program provides intake and domestic violence screening services for all parties identified in the Knox County Juvenile and Circuit Courts who are voluntarily entering mediation or required to participate in mediation according to Parenting Plan Law. This program coordinates and provides administrative services for mediations and Parent Education Courses in the 6th Judicial District. This program recruits Rule 31 Mediators who will receive referrals from CMC and refer cases to Rule 31 mediators where appropriate and provide appropriate mediator list to parties.

### **Legal Aid of East Tennessee – Cleveland serving Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk Counties**

Cathy Allshouse, Senior Attorney  
166 North Ocoee Street  
Cleveland, TN 37311

[callshouse@laet.org](mailto:callshouse@laet.org)

Phone: (423) 303-2266

This program develops and maintains Parenting Plan packets for self-represented litigants available through the clerks of the Chancery Court Clerk's Office and Circuit Court Clerk's Office in the 10th Judicial District and reviews Chancery Court and Circuit Court divorce filings for legal adequacy and appropriateness with Parenting Plan requirements for self-represented litigants with minor children the 10th Judicial District.

### **Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, Inc.'s Family Connections - Chattanooga serving Hamilton County**

Elaine Bradway, Assistant Director  
1800 McCallie Avenue  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

[ebradway@partnershipfca.com](mailto:ebradway@partnershipfca.com)

Phone: (423) 755-2822

This program facilitates a no or low cost supervised visitation program to help resolve family conflict for low income and indigent parties, including those with a history of domestic violence, going through a divorce, post-divorce, or other custody issue in the 11th Judicial District's Circuit and Chancery Courts.

**Solomon Family Solutions**  
**serving Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk**

Andrea Chase, Co-Executive Director

Betsy Miller, Co-Executive Director

166 N. Ocoee Street

Cleveland, TN 37311

[andrea@solomonfamilysolutions.com](mailto:andrea@solomonfamilysolutions.com), [betsy@solomonfamilysolutions.com](mailto:betsy@solomonfamilysolutions.com)

Phone: (423) 834-8774

This program collaborates with local attorneys to conduct monthly seminars in the 10th Judicial District at no cost to educate self-represented litigants about family mediation, parenting plans, and requirements for completion of the 4 hour parenting class for divorcing parents. At the seminars, information will be provided on Solomon Family Solutions' services that include income-based reduced fee and pro bono family mediation services to assist families with matters in Juvenile and Circuit Courts in developing Parenting Plans and Solomon Family Solutions' court-approved 4 Hour Parenting Class for Divorcing Parents. Administration of as well as mediation and parent education services will be provided in English and Spanish. Information will also be provided regarding supervised visitation and how it is an important resource for families experiencing domestic violence or other safety concerns.

**Sullivan County Family Justice Center**  
**d/b/a Branch House Family Center**  
**serving Sullivan County**

Karen Boyd, Director

313 Foothills Drive

Blountville, TN 37617

[ktboyd@branchhousecenter.com](mailto:ktboyd@branchhousecenter.com)

Phone: (423) 574-7233

This program is administered by a pro bono mediation program utilizing Rule 31 Listed Mediators specially trained in domestic violence issues for Circuit and Chancery Courts in the 2nd Judicial District. Spanish-speaking mediators and/or translators will be available to assist parents in resolving family conflict.