

Why Education?

Co-parenting families have a unique set of challenges. They also have opportunities to build strength and resilience.

Family transition can be tough. For parents, it may mean a transition through divorce or separation. For children it may mean adjusting to new family arrangements, moving between households, or living with a single parent or another caregiver. Sadness and anger can be normal during this time. With support, children can adapt and thrive.

But one thing is clear: ongoing conflict between parents after separation or divorce is not healthy for children and is associated with poor outcomes.

There are many ways to reduce conflict and help children in co-parenting families thrive. Whether you're newly divorcing or separated or have been co-parenting for some time, **there is good news...**

Caught in the Middle:

Common situations when children feel caught in the middle:

- Carrying messages to the other parent
- Loyalty conflicts caused by "put downs" of the other parent
- Dealing with money matters
- Being quizzed about the other parent's life



YOU CAN FIND WAYS TO CO-PARENT EFFECTIVELY and HELP YOUR CHILDREN THROUGH TRANSITION TO CREATE A HEALTHY FUTURE.

How to Schedule

Participants must register directly through the University of Wisconsin– Extension.

**ASHLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS CALL:
(715) 682-7017**

**BAYFIELD COUNTY RESIDENTS CALL:
(715) 373-6104**

711 for WI Relay (TDD)

If you are required to take this class related to a divorce or mediation, the class must be completed prior to your final divorce hearing or mediation session.

Instructor permission is required for both co-parents to attend the same session. Both must agree that attending together is in the best interest of their children and will enhance their learning. Priority is given on first-come, first-served basis.

Important: Registration is not complete if not made through UW-Extension, even if payment has been made. Registered students will be contacted in the event of a schedule change or class cancellation.

Payment Information

Fee: \$30 per parent. Cash, checks or money orders will be accepted in advance or at time of class. (Exact amount only.) Please make checks to:

**Ashland County Clerk of Court
201 West Main Street
Courthouse, Room 307
Ashland, WI 54806**

Is there an online option?

An online program *Children In Between* (\$69.95) may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Clerk of Circuit Court in your county to request.

Successful Co-Parenting

Education for
Divorcing or Separated Parents

JULY– DECEMBER, 2017



**LW
Extension**
University of Wisconsin-Extension

2017 JULY-DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Successful Co-Parenting

Month	Date	Day	Time	Location
July	11	Tuesday	Noon—3:00pm	Washburn
August	15	Tuesday	9:00am—Noon	Ashland
September	20	Wednesday	5:30pm— 8:30pm	Washburn
October	26	Thursday	3:00—6:00pm	Ashland
December	6	Wednesday	3:00pm—6:00pm	Washburn

Locations:

Ashland:

Ashland County Courthouse,
201 West Main Street, Ashland
Third Floor - Jury Room No. 1
(Enter from the north entrance adjacent to parking lot.)

Washburn:

Bayfield County Courthouse,
117 East Fifth Street, Washburn
Lower Level - Conference Room B,
(Follow posted signs to class location.)

Educators:

Heidi Ungrodt

Family Living Educator
Ashland & Iron Counties

Elizabeth Lexau

Family Living Educator
Bayfield County

“Makes you aware of things that can and will come up and how to deal with them without emotionally upsetting the children.”

— Parent participant



Reported results:

- ◆ Parents perceived the classes to be realistic and useful.
- ◆ Parents reported success in dramatically lowering exposure of their children to parental conflict.
- ◆ Parents completing the class were better able to work through how they would handle difficult child-related situations with the other co-parent.



Parents will:

- 1 Become aware of the burdens and dilemmas of children caught in the middle of parental conflicts and problems at different ages.
- 2 Learn and practice new skills for positively interacting with their children and ex-spouse or partner.
- 3 Learn ways to communicate with and support children during difficult times, and encourage children to give parents feedback when problems occur.



“Excellent program. Opened my eyes to my kids’ point of view and the importance of a joint effort for my kids’ benefit.”

— Parent participant