

The
P.E.A.C.E. Program
of
Montgomery County

The Family Division of Montgomery County Circuit Court is committed to helping families of separation and divorce develop positive, working relationships for the benefit of their children.



offered
by the

Family Division
of the
Montgomery County
Circuit Court

Rockville, MD

THE P.E.A.C.E. PROGRAM OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

P.E.A.C.E. (Parent Education And Custody Effectiveness) is an educational program for divorcing and separating parents. It informs parents about the emotional, economic, and educational problems their children may experience as a result of divorce and separation and how prolonged parental conflict can increase their anxiety. *It encourages parents to assume responsibility for creating a post divorce environment in which their children are their first priority.*

P.E.A.C.E. provides information about three topics:

-The court process involved in custody and visitation in Montgomery County, Maryland.

-The effects of divorce and separation on adults.

-The effects of divorce and separation on children and, specifically, how parents can help children cope with this difficult transition in their lives.

BENEFITS OF P.E.A.C.E.

Being a parent, under the best of circumstances, can be a difficult and confusing task. Being a parent, while trying to establish a new way of life, is a task for which few adults are prepared. Participation in P.E.A.C.E. helps divorcing, separating or unmarried parents create an effective co-parenting relationship for their children including:

- **P**roviding parents with helpful information about the court system, their own and their children's responses to divorce, and how to alleviate resulting problems with the help of community resources.
- **A** Guide to parents to develop skills to promote the healthy adjustment of children.
- **R**eminding them that their children's needs are primary.
- **E**ncouraging them to develop a workable post divorce or separation parenting plan rather than having the court impose one on them.
- **N**oting the impact that divorce has on children of different ages.
- **T**eaching ways of communicating with greater skill.
- **S**uccessful methods of solving problems and conflicts.

Who is eligible: Anyone who is ordered by the Circuit Court of Montgomery County to attend parenting classes for divorcing and separating parents. Montgomery County residents who have been ordered by another Circuit Court to attend parenting classes.

Where it is being held: Judicial Center, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD, in the Jury Lounge on the Fourth Floor. #240-777-9065.

When it is being held: The program will be offered three times a month in two consecutive sessions from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Variations in the schedule may occur due to holidays.

Cost: There is no cost to parents who have been ordered to attend by the Circuit Court.

Facilitators: The staff members conducting the seminars possess the requisite training and credentials in the field of social work and mental health.

****Although this class is significantly about children, it is not for children. Please make child care arrangements.**