

Confidential Intermediary Training

Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., is hosting a one day training, endorsed by The Michigan Probate Judges Association, to provide interested individuals an overview of the skills and information necessary to function as a confidential intermediary.

The 1995 Adoption Legislation

The role of a confidential intermediary was formalized in Michigan with the passage of legislation that took effect on January 1, 1995. The legislation (P.A. 202 of 1994) allows a court to appoint a confidential intermediary to search for and make contact with a former family member. If the search efforts are successful, then the confidential intermediary is responsible to, "... discreetly and confidentially contact the individual to ascertain whether the individual is willing to release information to the petitioner or to meet or communicate with the petitioner."

The legislation responds to a concern of many people throughout Michigan who would like to make contact with a person(s) with whom they have a connection. Confidential Intermediaries can play an instrumental role in these reunions, but there are important skills and information necessary to be competent.

In addition, there are sensitivity issues which confidential intermediaries must recognize to assure that the issues and concerns of the persons involved are handled with respect. For these reasons, the legislation requires confidential intermediaries to file an oath of confidentiality and to complete training.

Each County Court in Michigan will make their own determination as to how they will proceed with providing confidential intermediary services. Participants should be aware that C.I. approval by one court does not constitute approval by any other court in Michigan.

Agenda

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
9:15 a.m. Introduction
- 9:20 a.m. **Session 1**
Legislation & Court Procedures
Sandra Recker, Adoption Specialist
Kent County Circuit Court-Family Division
- 10:20 a.m. Questions/Answers
Break
- 10:50 a.m. **Session 2**
Search Strategies
Mimi Mazzara/Art Johnson
Confidential Intermediaries
- 11:50 a.m. Questions/Answers
- 12:00 p.m. **Liability Insurance**
Sherry Brackenhagen, MSIA
- 12:05 p.m. Lunch
- 12:50 p.m. **Session 3**
Reunion Issues/Techniques
Mimi Mazzara/Art Johnson
Confidential Intermediaries
- 1:20 p.m. Questions/Answers
Break
- 1:45 p.m. **Session 4**
Sensitivity Issues/Denial
Jennifer Royal
Confidential Intermediary
- 3:15 p.m. Questions/Answers
- 3:30 p.m. Closing Remarks

Confidential Intermediary Training Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Registration fee: **\$100.00**
Payable to: Child and Family Services
of Michigan, Inc.

Please return your registration form
and fee by: **September 1, 2015**

Space is limited. Fee is non-refundable.

Detach registration form and mail
along with your fee to:

Child and Family Services of Michigan
2157 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI 48864

Confidential Intermediary Training

for
Persons Interested in
Serving as
Confidential Intermediaries with
Courts in Michigan

**Wednesday
September 16, 2015**
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Hosted By:
Child and Family Services of
Michigan, Inc.
2157 University Park Drive
Okemos, Michigan 48864
517-349-6226

Endorsed by:
The Michigan Probate Judges
Association