

FACILITATORS' NAMES AND OCCUPATIONS

Jean Biesecker, Esquire

Jean M. Biesecker, a solo practitioner, has been a family law attorney for over 25 years, graduating from the T.C. Williams School of Law and obtaining her Master in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition to representing families in a range of matters related to separation and divorce, Jean has served as an advocate for children, parents and foster parents in the child welfare system. Since 1997, she has incorporated mediation as a key component of services in her family law practice and has been a Mediator for the Montgomery and Chester County court-connected custody mediation programs since May 2002. In addition to her family law mediation practice, Jean has also mediated pre-EEO complaints for the U.S. Postal Service REDRESS Program and has training in elder mediation matters. Jean is also a collaborative family Law attorney and Parent Coordinator, facilitating resolution of parenting disputes as a Parent Coordinator for high conflict families in the Denver District Court from 2000-2001.

As an educator, Jean is a former co-instructor for Denver-based Dispute Resolution Professionals, teaching a court-mandated parenting education class; trainer for Pennsylvania Child Welfare Competency-Based Training and Certification Program as well as the Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services; former adjunct faculty at James Beasley School of Law, co-teaching a clinical custody mediation program. Jean continued to provide supervision for law students in the clinical program from the Fall 2008 through Spring 2011.

Cheryl Cutrona, Esquire

Adjunct Professor at Temple University, Beasley School of Law
Executive Director of Good Shepherd Mediation Program

Ellen DeBenedetti, M.Ed.

Mediator, trainer and conflict coach in private practice

Barbara Foxman

Barbara Foxman is a licensed clinical social worker, psychotherapist and mediator. She specializes in the treatment of children and adolescents with special needs including learning differences, issues of bereavement and loss and the impact on divorce on children and adults. She has worked with schools for educational planning of the children that she sees. Ms. Foxman has also worked as a therapist with children and their families at Southern Home for Children in Philadelphia, The Devereux Foundation and Bryn Mawr Hospital, Youth and Family Psychotherapy Program. Ms. Foxman mediates elder mediation, family, divorce, EEOC matters and mediation in school settings. Ms. Foxman has presented workshops on Values and Ethics for Social Workers ethics in health care, ethical standards for mediators practicing elder mediation, and conflict resolution for addiction counselors. She has been a trainer for

Elder Mediation, and use of conflict resolution in health care settings. She has also spoken on areas of loss, bereavement and emotions for court custody mediation programs and in health care settings. Ms. Foxman has a MSW from Wayne State University, and is a Board Certified Diplomat in Social Work.

Thomas Frost

Served as a Special Education Mediator in the State of New Jersey for fifteen years
Served as a Director of Special Education in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Lou Ann Gray, M.ED., NCPCC,

Lou Ann has 39 years of experience as a mental health counselor and supervisor and 7 years experience as a mediator. She has served as a faculty member in higher education and motivational speaker and is a certified guidance counselor K-12 with 18 years of public education experience concentrating in Special and Alternative Education Services. In addition to her private counseling and mediation practice, Lou Ann is a mediator and IEP facilitator for the Office of Dispute Resolution in Harrisburg, U.S. District Court of Western Pennsylvania, a Neutral Third Party Mediator for UPMC's Intermediation Program and is a Nationally Certified Parenting Coordinator. Ms. Gray is a member of The Association for Conflict Resolution, Pennsylvania Council of Mediators, Mediation Counsel of Western Pennsylvania, and Professional Academy of Custody Evaluators. Currently, Ms. Gray is the Coordinator of Crisis Intervention Services at The Open Door In Indiana PA for Armstrong and Indiana Counties.

Nancy Geist Giacomini, Ed.D.

Dr. Giacomini is a private educator, mediator and author based in Chester County, PA. Her longtime national advocacy for integrating inclusive conflict management practices in education culminated in her co-edited journal Reframing Campus Conflict: Student Conduct Practice through a Social Justice Lens (Stylus 2009). She has enjoyed national speaking engagements, webinar series, and system review consultations based on the ideas collaboratively advanced in this groundbreaking publication.

Dr. Giacomini returned to the University of Delaware in 2011 as the graduate practicum instructor for Student Affairs Practice in Higher Education (College of Education and Human Development). She is certified to administer the Conflict Dynamics Profile (CDP) and teach Becoming Conflict Competent curriculum developed by Eckerd College and is presently investigating opportunities to develop the instrument and curriculum for undergraduate and graduate coursework. Nancy earned her Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Delaware while a Conflict Resolution Program (CRP) Associate in the Institute for Public Administration. She taught in the master's program, mediated special education disputes for the Delaware Department of Education, and facilitated statewide dialogue. Doctoral research, "Enhancing the Collaborative Capacity

of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in Delaware Schools”, helped shape state-wide IEP facilitation and training. Nancy holds additional degrees in Counseling and Psychology.

Dr. Giacomini held national leadership positions in the Association for Student Conduct Administration (ASCA) including roles as annual faculty member, planning team member and co-chair of the association’s annual summer training institute for student conduct professionals in higher education. Under her leadership, ASCA integrated marginalized conflict resolution themes across traditional adjudication training tracks, organized the first nationally offered restorative justice training for student conduct administrators, and updated the annual mediation curriculum to include social and restorative justice theories and the Spectrum of Resolution Options Model (Schrage & Thompson, 2008) to help evolve student conduct practice beyond an adjudication model. Nancy was national program chair for two annual conferences and was elected to a three year-board position as president. In 2004, she was honored with the Gehring Award, the association’s top honor.

Dr. Giacomini’s interest in conflict resolution began at the University of Delaware while Assistant Dean of Students for Judicial Affairs. Over a decade of on campus leadership included roles as mediation trainer and advisor to the student government as students worked to develop a town/gown mediation program. She chaired the Appellate Judicial Board, Council for Student Judicial Affairs, and Sexual Assault Awareness Weeks and was awarded the prestigious Institutional Award for Women’s Equity for her campus advocacy. Nancy’s career has bridged conduct and conflict management practice in higher education, special education, K-12, government, business and non-profits. Today she enjoys a diverse educationally-based training, mediation, and consulting practice; teaches K-12 curriculum-based programs at Longwood Gardens in Kennett, PA and volunteers in local schools, girl scouts and for animal rescue.

Lorraine J. Heeter, Esquire

Attorney in Private Practice

Registered Nurse

School Health Coordinator for Clarion County’s Promise, Inc.

Former PA Appeals Panel Member

Jean M. Lupariello, Esquire

Attorney/Mediator in Private Practice

Dr. Constance Fox Lyttle, Esquire

Associate Clinical Professor, Drexel University

Attorney in Private Practice (PA)

Academic/Inclusion Consultant/Coach (NY/NJ)

Former Tenured Associate Professor of Special Education (10 years) Duquesne University

Associate in Law Firm of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart

PA Special Education Hearing Officer and Appeals Panel Member

Gerald Powers, Ed.D.

Mediator in Private Practice

Retired Professor of Education from Bloomsburg University of PA

Jane Rigler, Esquire

Jane Rigler has nearly thirty years of experience as an arbitrator and mediator. She spent twenty-seven years associated with an educational institution and currently resides in Carlisle.

James Salem

Former assistant superintendent

Janice Seidenfeld

Mediator in Private Practice

Mediator for the Key Bridge Foundation

Marty Thomas-Brumme

Development Officer for Elizabethtown College

Previous Director of the Rose Mediation Center

Judy Tobe

Mediator in Private Practice

Speech Pathology Consultant, M.A., C.C.C.

Max Wald, Ed.D.

Retired

Public School Principal

Supervisor of Special Education

Director of Approved Private School

Ed.D., M.Ed., and B.S. in Education

Adjunct Professor, Temple University

Former PA Special Education Hearing Officer