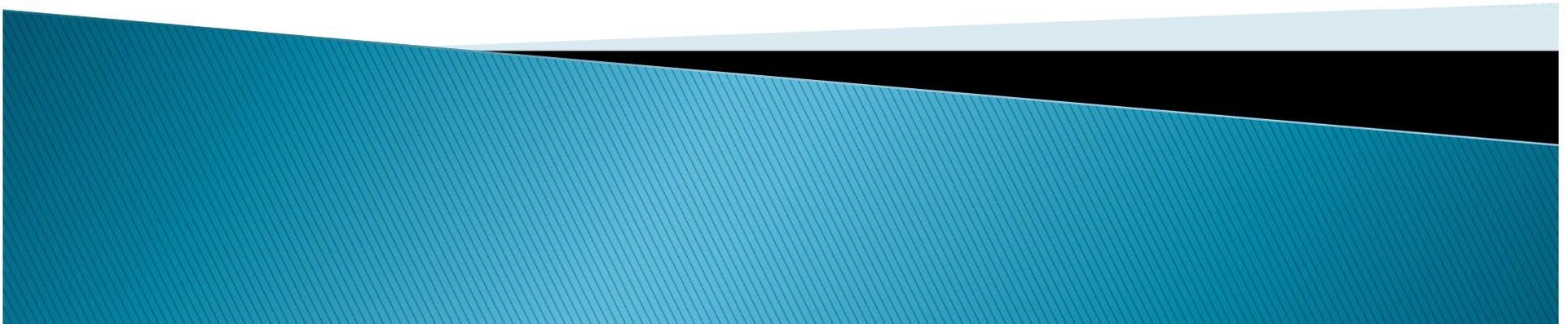


Iowa Aging Issues Mediation Project 2013

A partnership of Iowa Association of Mediators,
Iowa Department on Aging and the Area
Agencies on Aging



Identification of the Need

- ▶ More than 20% of Iowa's population is sixty or over
- ▶ Aging issues generate conflicts over decision-making, living conditions, and services
- ▶ Use of third party neutrals to help resolve conflicts has grown dramatically over the last decades
- ▶ Elder Issue mediation has developed as a specialty across the United States



First Step – Education

- ▶ The Iowa Department on Aging partnered with the Iowa Association of Mediators to
 - Sponsor an Elder Issue Mediation Conference in May of 2013
 - Provide a one-day mediation basics training for 14 Iowa Department on Aging and Area Agency on Aging staff members
 - Sponsor a fifteen hour advanced Elder Issue mediation training for IAM mediators and IDA and AAA staff



Second Step – The Committee

- ▶ A committee was established with representatives of the Iowa Department on Aging, Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and the Iowa Association of Mediators to explore further collaboration



Committee action:

- ▶ More education for the core group to increase competency in:
 - basic mediation skills
 - co-mediation
 - services offered by the AAA's
 - common regulatory issues



Third Step–The Roster

- ▶ Through the education efforts of the partnership we have established a roster of:
 - Experienced mediators with advanced training on mediating aging issue conflicts
 - Experienced aging specialists with training in mediating aging issue conflicts
 - Experienced mediators with supplemental information on mediating aging issue conflicts



Fourth Step – Brainstorming

- ▶ Mediation as a core competency for AAA staff
- ▶ Systematized cooperation to provide quality, affordable mediation training and continuing education for aging issue mediators
- ▶ Established standards for aging issue mediators in Iowa
 - Education
 - Continuing education
 - Ethics



- ▶ Establish a culture where mediations and facilitations are the first choice to resolve conflicts over aging issues

- ▶ Make qualified aging issue mediators and facilitators available across Iowa
 - For families
 - For service providers
 - For the court system



The Future

- ▶ Develop formal goals
 - collaboratively for the partnership
 - cooperatively for the members of the partnership
- ▶ Meet funding challenges
- ▶ Expand the partnership
- ▶ Expand the horizons



Be part of the future

- ▶ Learn more about aging issue mediation
- ▶ Integrate mediation into your systems
- ▶ Upgrade training to include mediation skills
- ▶ Spread the word that there is an accessible, peaceful way to resolve conflicts



For more information contact

- ▶ The Iowa Association of Mediators
<http://iamediators.org>
- ▶ The Iowa Department on Aging
<http://www.iowaaging.gov>
- ▶ The Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging
<http://www.i4a.org>
- ▶ Your local Area Agency on Aging



To find a Project Roster Mediators

- ▶ Go to:
<http://www.iamediators.org/pg1057.cfm>
- ▶ See the Roster provided in your downloaded materials.

