

Types of Issues

A wide variety of family and school related problems can be discussed in a PINS mediation session. Some of the more common concerns could include:

- Issues of respect among family members.
- Problems regarding household chores and responsibilities.
- Discussions of the family rules and curfews.
- Attendance in school and classes.
- Homework and turning assignments in on time.
- Feelings of not being listened to or heard.
- Treating all family members honestly and fairly.
- Running away from home.
- Issues of unacceptable language.

About CDS

The Center for Dispute Settlement is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1973 by the American Arbitration Association. We offer an alternative to the court system by providing a forum for peaceful resolution to everyday conflicts through the use of fact-finding, negotiation, mediation, arbitration, conciliation, and training.

We have trained and certified thousands of community members to serve as impartial third parties. We bring people together to provide an opportunity to settle their differences peacefully, fairly, and confidentially. All parties in a dispute can work to create a solution they can live with and possibly avoid the need to go to court.

For More Information

To inquire about services offered by CDS, please contact:

Center for Dispute Settlement
Livingston County Govt. Center
6 Court Street
Geneseo, NY 14614
(585) 243-7007

Visit our website at: www.cdsadr.org

PINS Mediation Program

An Alternative

For Youth and Families



CENTER FOR DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT
peace it together

Center for Dispute Settlement

Livingston County Govt. Center

6 Court Street

Geneseo, NY 14454

(585) 243-7007

How Does Mediation Work?

Mediation is a voluntary alternative to the court process.

In mediation, all of the parties meet with a trained person called a mediator. The mediator is not a judge and does not tell the parties how to resolve their issue(s). Instead, the mediator works with the parties and helps them:

- Identify the relevant issues.
- Identify areas of agreement.
- Establish common ground.
- Explore solutions that are realistic and long-lasting.
- Develop a workable plan for the future.

Who Can Participate

Youth between the ages of 7 and 18 and their families are eligible to participate in the PINS Mediation Program.

PINS Mediation Program

The PINS (Person in Need of Supervision) Mediation Program is a service of the Livingston County Family Court, in partnership with the Center for Dispute Settlement. The program is specifically designed to work with youth exhibiting serious behavior problems and their families.

PINS Mediation was implemented by the Center for Dispute Settlement (CDS) in Monroe County Family Court in March 2000. The Program was planned and developed through collaborative efforts of Family Court, Probation, Presentment Agency, and the Legal Aid Society of Rochester. Based on the success of the program in Monroe County, and in partnership with the New York State Unified Court System, CDS is now offering PINS Mediation as an alternative to the judicial process to other counties in the Seventh Judicial District.

Benefits of Mediation

Several of the major benefits of participating in the PINS Mediation Program are:

- Mediation is private and confidential.
- Mediation allows the parties to reach their own solutions to their issues and concerns.
- There is no charge to the parties to participate in PINS Mediation. Funding is provided through the New York State Unified Court System.

Referral Sources

Most cases are referred to the PINS Mediation Program by a Family Court Judge or by personnel in your County Probation Department.

However, a parent, legal guardian, school district, or other interested party may contact CDS directly about participating in the PINS Mediation Program.