

Boulder Interdisciplinary Committee on Child Custody
2012 Annual Conference

Friday, February 3, 2012
8:00am to 3:30pm

Charlie and Barb Asher

Beginning with the End in Mind:

An Interdisciplinary Look at Families

Actual Needs During Divorce

Joan H. McWilliams, Esq.

Parenting Plans for Families After Divorce:

Includes a Special Section on

Child Inclusive Parenting Plans

Judicial Roundtable

Judges & Magistrates from Northeastern Colorado

The Changing Landscape of Parenting Cases:

What Is and What May Be

**8 General
Credits
&
4 Ethics
Credits**

Arvada Center
6901 Wadsworth Blvd. Arvada, CO 80003
720-898-7200 www.arvadacenter.org



Beginning with the End in Mind: An Interdisciplinary Look at Families' Actual Needs During Divorce

The Ashers' will present four opportunities professionals can use their online resources to assist parents.

- ⇒ For judges, as a possible automatic referral
- ⇒ For mediators, prior to and during the mediation
- ⇒ For lawyers, to reinforce best interest concepts
- ⇒ For evaluators, to help move parents beyond their own hurt

Finally, the Ashers' will invite a discussion of the law's problem-solving tradition and the implications of elevating attorneys' practices and the law's processes in family cases to that tradition.

Their free online tools are designed to assist parents in separation and divorce crises and have earned considerable accolades, including the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's Lawyer as Problem Solver Award and the Association of Family and Conciliation Court's Irwin Cantor Innovative Program Award.

Charlie is an AV-rated attorney, past chair of the ADR Section of the Indiana State Bar Association, recipient of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's prestigious "Lawyer as Problem-Solver Award" and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts' "Irwin Cantor Innovative Program Award." Barb has counseled clients in a wide range of family issues. They limit their current client work to cases of family mediation.

Each month www.UpToParents.org and the Ashers' other free websites are used by thousands of English and Spanish speaking parents to understand the advantages of using a steadfast focus on children's needs. Info@UpToParents.org

Charlie and Barb Asher have combined their respective careers in law and social work to build what has become known as the "UpToParents Family of Resources." Their forward-looking progressive websites provide help to separating/divorcing parents, incentivizing them to rise above negativity and explaining the senseless-ness of a competitive divorce while reducing conflict and promoting settlement. Why? As they explain, **it is in their best interests** to do what is in their children's best interests.

Parents undergoing divorce have the option of choosing:

- ◆ Simplicity and economy **instead of** complications and expense
- ◆ Learning to make decisions as parenting partners **instead of** living in fear of litigation
- ◆ Creating a workable future **instead of** exhausting fault-finding about a failed past
- ◆ Saving one's children, and through that saving oneself **instead of** injuring the children, and through that injuring oneself.

Choosing from the left side promotes a parent's strengths and increases the likelihood of a healthy post divorce relationship with the other parent and the children.

Parenting Plans for Families After Divorce

which includes a special section on *Child-Inclusive Parenting Plans*, provides parents information to consider when writing their own parenting plans.

Joan H. McWilliams, MSJA, JD,



As a pioneer in the field of mediation, Joan has acted as a third-party neutral in a wide variety of domestic and civil disputes. Before starting her mediation practice more than 20 years ago, she served as a law clerk for the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals and was a partner in a Denver law firm.

Joan has been an active member of the Colorado Bar Association and was co-initiator of the Colorado Parental Responsibilities Act. She is the recipient of the Alumni Professional Award from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and the Family Law Icon Award from the Colorado Bar Association.

She was recently named as the 2012 *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" in Family Law Mediation—Denver. She is listed in *Super Lawyers 5280*, *U.S. News-Best Lawyers/Best Law Firms*, and *The Bar Register of Preeminent Women Attorneys*. She is the author of the award-winning book, *The PeaceFinder: Riley McFee's Quest for World Peace*, and also *Parenting Plans For Families After Divorce*. www.McWilliamsMediation.com

The conference goal is to promote cooperative co-parenting post divorce utilizing alternative programs. We will review current programs in use by domestic courts in Colorado and those that may be considered in the future to reframe priorities for parents and the family court system to:

- ◆ Put children's needs first
- ◆ Promote children above conflict with other parent
- ◆ Promote settlement from the beginning
- ◆ Educate parents to develop & write parenting plans
- ◆ Facilitate effective parental communication and co-parenting post divorce

The Boulder Interdisciplinary Committee on Child Custody is a non-profit organization comprised of attorneys, mental health professionals, mediators, and community service organizations.

BIDC provides educational forums for professionals who work in the area of parental responsibility and promotes an understanding of the legal and psychological issues of parental responsibility and parenting time in the professional community.

Judicial Roundtable

The Changing Landscape of Parenting Cases: What is and What May Be

- ⇒ Best use of initial status conferences and other techniques in the creation and completion of parenting plans
- ⇒ Plan B, as presented at the Family Law Institute 2011
- ⇒ The use of ENA's – per Adams County Pilot Project
- ⇒ Court Involved Therapy - per AFCC Guidelines
- ⇒ How to develop the resources to educate parents to write their own parenting plans

REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I am a member of: BIDC ___ COAFCC ___ MDIC ___

Attorney ___ Collaborative Professional ___ FCF ___

Judge/Magistrate ___ Court Personnel ___ Mediator ___

Parenting Educator ___ Mental Health Professional ___

Legal Professional ___ Student ___

CONFERENCE FEES

(Includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch)

	REGISTER by 1/14/12	after 1/14/12
BIDC/COAFCC/MDIC:	\$135	\$150
Non-members:	\$150	\$165
Students & Court Personnel:	\$99	\$99

8 General Credits & 4 Ethics Credits!

Cancellations prior to January 14, 2012 will be honored less a \$25 service charge. Cancellations after that date will not be refunded, but substitutions can be made at any time.

Any questions? Please contact Cindy Mayhew, Administrative Coordinator, at 720-232-4573 or boulderidc@gmail.com!

Judicial Officers

Judge Jack Berryhill

1st JD – Gilpin and Jefferson Counties

Magistrate Karen Hubler

2nd JD – Denver County

Judge Katherine Delgado

17th JD – Adams and Broomfield Counties

Judge Angela Arkin

18th JD - Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln Counties

Judge Marcelo Kopcow

19th JD - Weld County

Judge Maria Berkenkotter and Judge Patrick Butler

20th JD - Boulder County

PROGRAM

8:00 Registration-Continental Breakfast

8:30 Charlie and Barb Asher

*Beginning with the End in Mind: An
Interdisciplinary Look at Families*

Actual Needs During Divorce

10:00 Break

10:15 Ashers continue

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Joan McWilliams, Esq.

*Parenting Plans for Families After
Divorce-One Size Does Not Fit All!*

1:15 Break

1:30 Judicial Roundtable

*The Changing Landscape of Parenting
Cases: What Is and What May Be*

3:30 Conference Adjourns

Register by
January
14th &
SAVE!

Register and pay online
with Paypal
at www.boulderidc.org

Or mail your form with your
check made payable to:

Boulder IDC
PO Box 270435
Louisville, CO 80027