

Parents Forever is a program that educates parents to take positive action toward four goals:

1. Putting the best interests of their children first.

2. Permitting children access to both parents, when safe to do so.

3. Avoiding conflicts in front of their children.

4. Avoiding putting their children in the middle.

This course meets the requirements of Minnesota legislation, which became effective in January of 1997, that mandates all parents of minor children going through a divorce with contested custody or parenting time issues to complete a divorce education program. Upon completion, participants receive a certificate recognized by the court as compliance with orders to participate.

Sponsors:

HUG Council
Lyon County Law Library Board
Lincoln, Lyon and Murray Human Services
Healthy Minds Foundation

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Program Team:

- Stoneberg, Giles, & Stroup, P.A.
- Counseling on the Prairie
- Diebold Law Firm
- HUG Council
- Lyon County Extension Service
- Lyon County Guardian Ad Litem
- Lyon County Judges
- Lincoln, Lyon, & Murray Human Services
- Marshall Community Services
- New Horizons Crisis Center
- Quarnstrom, Doering, Pederson, Leary & Murphy Law Offices PA
- Runchey, Louwagie & Wellman
- Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc.
- Western Mental Health

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**PARENTS
FOREVER™**

EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES
CONTEMPLATING DIVORCE

**Understanding
The Impact of
Divorce on Children**

Dates: February 23, 24, & 26
of 2009

Time: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Lyon County Government
Center

607 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258



Fewer than half of America's children can expect to live out their childhood with their biological parents, whether their parents are divorced or never married. Research shows that on average these children:

- get sick more often
- get in trouble more often
- get lower grades at school
- have more trouble making friends

When parents cannot work constructively through custody, child support and other difficult divorce issues, the pain for both parents and children endures long after the divorce is final.

Parents Forever participants learn how to make informed, child supportive decisions, so that children will come through divorce healthy and with a positive relationship with both parents.

Parents Forever is a comprehensive educational program that puts parents on the path to minimizing stress for themselves and for their children.

"It's changed me! It's taken the focus more off of me and put it on -

"Where do my kids fall into play here?"

Parents Forever Participant

The three-part series includes the following topics:



The Impact of Divorce on Adults outlines the typical stages of divorce – not just the legal separation, but also the emotional work of thinking like a single person again.



The Impact of Divorce on Children focuses on how divorce affects children and how parents can help their children through the transition.

Legal Issues and Mediation is a nuts-and-bolts look at the many legal issues that surface in divorce. Also provided is an introduction to mediation, which many parents find preferable to litigation in making divorce and custody decisions.

Money Issues helps parents to calculate the true cost of raising children, and it demonstrates how divorce affects a family's standard of living. Topics include information about child support, easy-to-use budget worksheets, and how to talk to your children about money.

Pathways to a New Life explores some fundamental steps for divorcing parents to get on with their lives, including letting go of the past, redefining their shared role as parents and developing a new circle of friends.

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REGISTRATION FORM

(*Due one week prior to first session)

PARENTS FOREVER

Attending

February 23, 24, & 26, 2009
Lyon County Government Center
In Conference Rooms 4 & 5
607 West Main Street
Marshall, Minnesota 56258

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

County of Divorce: _____

Send form & check for \$40.00 per adult to:

Marshall Community Services
344 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258

????? Questions ??????

CALL

Maureen Sauer
LLM Human Services
(507) 532-1264