

What is mediation?

Mediation is an organized approach to develop an understanding that generates ideas and alternatives from which solutions may evolve.

A mediator encourages parties to adapt to, respond to, and take advantage of emerging ideas and turn them into workable solutions.

What are the benefits of using mediation?

Improved communication and understanding

Identification of new and creative solutions

Creation of action plans that reflect a variety of family interests

Save money on legal fees

Keep decision making under the family's control instead of the judicial process

Please contact us if you or someone you know is dealing with a difficult family issue.

We are available to answer questions and discuss ways that we can assist you. We offer an initial 60-minute free consultation.

Supporting Seniors & Their Families in Later Life Decisions



Mediation Partners of New England
888-412-0119
mediationpartnersne.com



Our Mission

The mission of Mediation Partners of New England is to support families to discover for themselves the best way to make decisions regarding their senior family members. There is no “right” way to move through this time in any family's journey.

Founders & Principals

Lynn and Susan's practice has been shaped by 30 years of professional and family experiences. They have worked in a variety of business and organizational settings including finance, insurance, technology, restaurants, small businesses, family businesses, community foundations, higher education, art cooperatives and religious communities. Their work has spanned both the for-profit and non-profit sectors.

Having grown up in large extended families, Susan and Lynn are both now part of blended families, and have each worked through inter-generational issues with their families.



Lynn Dunton, MS

Susan Schweizer, MS



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“It was extremely helpful to have been guided by an impartial voice... each issue was reiterated with positive and constructive feedback.... Susan’s genuine concern and empathy for the family was clear from the beginning. Everyone felt comfortable that his or her voice would be heard.... [The experience] gave us the opportunity to witness our own potential to calmly share frustrations and resolve concerns with dignity and respect.”

~ David L., Adult sibling and mediation client

How We Work

First, we strive to develop a common understanding of each family member’s point of view. Then we work to help you determine where you agree and disagree. Next the focus is shifted to the creation of a family generated plan specific to your situation. Often the solutions are creative and include ideas that could not have been imagined earlier.

We move families forward

Sensitive family situations present some of life’s greatest challenges. A transition in a senior’s life can trigger the need to make choices that may feel overwhelming. Sometimes this opens lingering disputes between adult siblings. Our work moves families through these complexities.

We reduce stress

Often seniors are distressed when they see that their personal situation is causing their family to struggle. This places added stress on them at a time when they need to know their family will be okay. When a viable solution is established, stress is often also reduced for children, siblings, friends and caretakers.

How We Help

Drawing from advanced degrees and years of experience in conflict consulting, communications, and interpersonal dynamics, Lynn and Susan specialize in helping families cut through confusion and come together to make important decisions.

What to Expect

First, we assess the situation by speaking confidentially with involved family members and other parties. The mediator then organizes a conversation(s) where family members and other involved parties share their point of view, listen to others, and search for viable alternatives.

Making the Decision

You and your family retain full control over the outcome, and you are encouraged to consult with your legal, financial, health, and other trusted advisors about any plans you reach.

Who Participates?

We aim to have all family members participate. Involved family friends or advisors (spiritual, financial, health, etc.) may also join the conversation. If someone cannot meet face to face, we arrange for technology so they can join the discussion.

Completely Confidential

Mediators practice strict confidentiality. Under no circumstances do mediators reveal conversations or outcomes from either private or group discussions.

We can help your family discuss and plan for:

Safe living arrangements

Care giving decisions and responsibility

Family members’ assistance with an older adult’s day-to-day needs

Adjusting to a senior’s new life partner

Changing financial status

Health care options

Division of property when planning estates

Property dilemmas
Post estate settlement

Continuation or dissolution of a family business.
