*Become a mediator at*

**Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Inc.**

Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Inc. (SVM) provides mediation services to individuals in Snyder, Union and Northumberland Counties. Mediation offers people the chance to come together to talk things out, work out agreements or decide what their next steps will be. Commonly, cases include:

• Separated or divorced parents discussing how to share responsibility for their children

• Families involved with the child welfare system

* Adult children discussing aging parents

• Neighborhood disputes

• Coworkers talking through difficulties

* Individuals and families impacted by incarceration, people returning back to the community and/or family after incarceration
* Landlord/Tenant disputes, eviction prevention mediation

SVM mediators help people have difficult conversations on participants’ own terms. Our training is based on the transformative framework of conflict intervention, first articulated in *The Promise of Mediation* by Robert A. Baruch Bush and Joseph P. Folger.

Mediators learn to:

• Identify constructive and destructive conflict.

* Understand destructive conflict as a crisis in human interaction

• Listen well and deeply to what people are saying

• Reflect and summarize what they hear, helping people hear themselves and each other

• Facilitate conversation for those caught in conflict to help them make the best decisions they can, given the situation they face and the perspectives of others involved.

Mediators make a commitment to volunteer for at least two years after completing their training.

***Being an active mediator***

To remain a mediator in good standing with SVM, the following ongoing requirements must be met:

* A mediator should be willing to volunteer for one to two mediation assignments each month.

• A mediator must participate in continuing education, as available through the center, and should attend at least one workshop or training each year.

• Advanced training is offered regularly, and mediators are encouraged to participate.

SVM’s volunteers participate in an initial 40-hour training. The training is primarily in-person with some virtual sessions included.

After you successfully complete mediator training, you will be asked to observe at least two mediations, then you will be paired with an experienced mentor mediator receive additional coaching, co-mediation and other support. Currently, most mediations and family meetings are being held on Zoom. We will modify as community conditions evolve.

**Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Inc.**

*Mediator Training Application*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How long have you lived at this address? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been vaccinated for Covid-19\*? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Because of the nature of the training, large portions of it will be in-person, unmasked. At this time, we are requiring those participating in all in-person trainings to be vaccinated. If you would like to do the training but are not vaccinated, we can keep your contact information and welcome you for future trainings when conditions allow.

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current \_\_\_\_\_\_ or last \_\_\_\_\_\_ employer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Job title and responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Have you completed any mediation training? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please provide the name of the program, the year you were trained and what model of mediation you learned (evaluative, facilitative, transformative, other)

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4. Have you ever served as a mediator? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, where and what kind of disputes?

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5. Have you ever been a party in a mediated dispute? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, what kind of dispute?

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6. What kind of disputes do you believe you would like to mediate?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child and parent visitation \_\_\_\_\_\_ Divorce and custody

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other family disputes \_\_\_\_\_\_ Eldercare

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood disputes \_\_\_\_\_\_ Housing/Landlord-Tenant

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Personal injury \_\_\_\_\_\_ Consumer/Debt

\_\_\_\_\_\_ School, Child, Parent \_\_\_\_\_\_ Discrimination

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child welfare \_\_\_\_\_\_ Prison Re-entry

7. SVM also offers other services consistent with our mission. Please indicate your potential interest in being involved with any of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Peer Mediation Training at area middle and/or high schools

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Group facilitation of child welfare cases (Crisis/Rapid Response Family Meetings)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Kids First Program (teaches parents about the impact of parental conflict on children)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Responding to Conflict training (teaches people and groups ways to apply knowledge used in mediation to self-manage their conflict more constructively)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dialogues and workshops on community-level conflicts and desire for dialogue

8. Describe ONE situation in which you were called on to resolve a dispute, but not as a mediator. It might have occurred at work, home, school or in the community.

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9. What skills and abilities do you have that would enhance your ability as a volunteer mediator? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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10. What, if any, languages other than English do you speak fluently? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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11. Volunteer work and civic organizations in which you’ve been active and duties you performed:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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12. SVM mediators are required to attend a 40-hour training that is scheduled over two weekends. The initial training is followed by an apprenticeship which includes practice sessions and observations. Please explain any schedule limitations you have.

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13. What hours would you generally prefer to mediate?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Weekdays (9-5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Weekdays (6-9) \_\_\_\_\_ Weekends (9-5)

14. Please share any information that you would like us to know in order to provide you a good experience as a trainee and mediator:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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15. Have you ever been found to be a perpetrator of child abuse? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, explain:

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16. Why do you want to be a mediator?

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I certify that the facts contained in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. Should I be engaged as a mediator by Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Inc., any misrepresentation or false statement contained herein, or omission of information that I was requested to provide in this application, may be considered cause for termination of my services as a center volunteer. I authorize the center to conduct any criminal background and child abuse registry checks that may be a prerequisite to the assignment of certain types of cases to me as a mediator, and will cooperate with the center by completing any documents necessary for such checks.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Signature (If submitting electronically, a typed signature is sufficient) Date*

*Thank you for your interest in mediation!*

*Please contact our Executive Director and trainer with any questions @*

Susan Jordan

570-837-9563

[sjordan@svmediation.org](mailto:sjordan@svmediation.org)

*Please send the completed application to:*

Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Inc.

Attention: Mediation Training

713 Bridge Street, Suite 3

Selinsgrove, PA 17870

or

[sjordan@svmediation.org](mailto:sjordan@svmediation.org)

SVM is a community mediation center and as such, welcomes applicants from across our community. SVM does not discriminate against any employee, applicant or client on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, physical ability, political belief, socio-economic status, marital status, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression.

SVM’s mission is to support constructive conversations and responses to conflict in the Susquehanna Valley through mediation services, facilitation, training and education.