

The Mediation Center

Family Visitation Program

Laura Jeffords, Executive Director laurahj@mediatewnc.org (828) 251-6089 x219

Supervised Visita-

The Family Visitation Program (FVP) requests \$24,000 to:

- Provide supervised visitation and exchange to 70 families
- Serve all families in need and avoid waiting lists
- Have a security professional present

Safe, secure location for non-custodial parents to visit with their children

Families have a risk of domestic-violence related homicide, child abduction, sexual assault, and/or child maltreatment

A professional monitor is present to ensure the safety of child and adult victims

Safe Exchange

Children to transition between parents with without parents having contact

A safe alternative to exchanging children in public, where help arrives *after* violence, abuse, and trauma

FVP is an investment in community safety, reduces the cycle of violence, protects the public, and decreases the burden on emergency services and law en-

"I like that I don't have to see the other person. I feel more safe with Family Visitation as the third party"

> "FVP is really fun! And friendly!" -Girl, age 11

"FVP is a safe and comfortable place for my child to visit"



Benefits to Victims

Victims can carry out custody and visitation court orders without fear of ongoing violence

Children don't witness conflict, abuse, or violence between parents, or suffer abuse and trauma themselves.

96% of victims state that they and their children are safe while at FVP

Eliminates contact between victims and abusers Prevents ongoing violence Reduces stress to traumatized children Complements the *Comprehensive Plan to Address Domestic Violence*