

Floyd Superior Court No. 3  
52<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit  
State of Indiana  
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JUDGE

June 27, 2024

**NOTICE OF ADR PROGRAM "FAMILIES MATTER"**  
**EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2024**

Floyd County Circuit and Superior Courts have received approval from the Indiana Office of Court Services for an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Fund Plan pursuant to Rule 1.11 of the Rules of Alternative Dispute Resolution. The program called "Families Matter" is available for families in Floyd County working through divorce, custody, parenting time, and child support disputes. The plan must be administered in accordance with I.C. 33-23-6 *et. seq.*, the ADR Rules, the Standards and Guidelines for the Establishment and Maintenance of ADR Fund Plans as approved by the Judicial Conference of Indiana, and all other applicable laws and rules regarding ADR. In addition to a small grant awarded by the Indiana Supreme Court, a \$20.00 portion of the filing fee for domestic relations cases will fund the program. Filing fees will increase on August 1, 2024 as follows:

Divorce	\$177.00
Paternity	\$196.00

Litigants with a pending charge or criminal conviction for specific domestic violence crimes may not participate in these programs. Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution are effective case management tools for family disputes, particularly for unrepresented parties. Not only can cases be resolved earlier through ADR, parties have a model to resolve future disputes on their own. Program funds compensate qualified mediators to assist low-income parties in reaching agreements to prevent long, costly, and difficult court cases. An additional goal is to provide qualified Guardian Ad Litem services so that low-income parties learn to co-parent well, develop conflict management skills, and successfully resolve subsequent family issues.