



PRESENTS

## **INTRODUCTORY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE TRAINING**

**FOR LAWYERS, FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS AND MENTAL HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS**



*This program is sponsored by the New Hampshire Psychological Association (NHPA) and the New Hampshire Collaborative Law Alliance (NHCLA). NHPA is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. NHPA maintains responsibility for this program and its content.*

**Friday May 6 & Saturday May 7, 2022**

**8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**(Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)**

**Concord, New Hampshire**

### **What is Collaborative Practice?**

Collaborative Practice is a growing worldwide movement to promote respectful family law dispute resolution without litigation. It offers a way to resolve differences by working together with lawyers and other trained professionals to reach agreement. Lawyers and clients meet together to explore options. Mental health professionals work as “coaches/facilitators” to provide support to both the clients and the team, and to assist with parenting issues. Financial professionals assist in gathering and analyzing information in order to reach a sustainable resolution. Clients make their own decisions rather than relying on a judge. All of the participants—clients and professionals—agree at the outset that they will work together to reach resolution *without going to court*. For more information about Collaborative Practice, go to [www.collaborativelawnh.org](http://www.collaborativelawnh.org) and see NH RSA 490-J.

The New Hampshire Collaborative Law Alliance (NHCLA) began using the collaborative team approach in 2010. This is our seventh interdisciplinary collaborative training. In the past we have had to use trainers from across the country to provide these extensive trainings, but we are now able to provide this training with our own New Hampshire Collaborative Law Alliance training team, consisting of two attorneys, one neutral financial professional, and one neutral mental health professional, who have had extensive experience using Collaborative Divorce here in New Hampshire. Clients interested in Collaborative Divorce are expected to increase as a result of the recent passage of the New Hampshire Collaborative Law Act (RSA 490-J).

Over the course of the two days, participants will learn and see how the collaborative team works from start to finish. There will also be demonstrations, discussions, and plenty of time for participants to comment and ask questions. The training will address the role of each profession, individually and as a team. The training includes introducing clients to collaboration, interest-based negotiation concepts, enhancing communication and team building skills, and ethical considerations, as well as the emotional, legal, financial and psychological components of divorce and the dynamics of interpersonal relationships.

### **Who Should Attend this Training?**

Lawyers, financial professionals, and mental health professionals who complete this training will be eligible to apply for membership in NHCLA and participate as team members in Collaborative dispute resolution *if they meet the required minimum standards*, which can be viewed on our website's "About Us" page (<https://collaborativedivorcenh.com/about-us/>). For current NHCLA members, it is an excellent way to enhance your skills, at a greatly reduced rate!

### **The Trainers**

The members of the team who will be leading this training include Jane Schirch, Esquire, Catherine McKay, Esquire, Karen Ela Kenny, MSW, LICSW, and Jill Boynton, CFP®, CDFA. They are experienced collaborative practitioners and have all held leadership roles in furthering CP in New Hampshire. Jane Schirch is a former Board member and former co-chair, and Cathy McKay, Karen Ela Kenny and Jill Boynton are current Board members.

### **Location**

The training will take place at the New Hampshire Audubon Society, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH. Lunch will be provided, along with continental breakfast and snacks.

### **Continuing Education Credits**

Continuing education credit (14 CE credits) has been approved by the NH Psychological Association. NHPA is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. These credits will also be accepted by the State Board of Mental Health Practice for all New Hampshire licensees. For those attendees wishing to receive credits from the NHPA, there will be an additional \$25.00 charge for the fee charged by NHPA per attendee seeking credits.

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the history, theory, and practical application of multidisciplinary collaborative practice to potential divorcing couples.
2. Apply the language and techniques of each other's professions so as to be able to promote successful negotiations aimed at helping couples reach their own constructive settlements.
3. Explain how and when to work in various multidisciplinary combinations (for example, how to conduct one's self in meetings involving attorneys, clients, and mental health professionals together).
4. Prepare for impasse and resistance from potential clients and professionals.
5. Utilize and explain important forms, such as formal participation agreements and court-required forms, and important questionnaires and checklists, such as those pertaining to family history, marital circumstances, and personal concerns.
6. Discuss the unique ethical considerations of working with a multidisciplinary team (boundaries, dual relationships, confidentiality).
7. Use debriefing skills that can be applied at the end of a collaborative case so that continual learning takes place.

It is expected that attorneys participating in this training will qualify for 14 CE credits, including 1 ethics credit, also.

## **Cost & Registration**

For non-NHCLA members: Tuition for the two-day training is \$525. Registrations received by April 1<sup>st</sup> get an early bird rate of \$450!

For students\* and NHCLA members taking this as a refresher course: Early bird rate is \$200, received by April 1st and the regular rate is \$300. (\*There may be sponsorships available for law students. Please email your resume & transcript to our administrative assistant, Joanne LaGree, at [joannelagree@msn.com](mailto:joannelagree@msn.com) if you are interested.)

**The registration form and sponsorship opportunities can be found on our website <https://collaborativedivorcenh.com/training-and-education/>.**

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