



The Children's Centre
Children, Young People and Families First

Date 26 July 2010

Embargo

Title

Mediation Service at The Children's Centre finishes

Introductory Paragraph

The Children's Centre regrettably announce that the Family Mediation Service they have been providing for the past 18 months will officially cease operation 31st July 2010 due to lack of sustainable funding.

Main Body

Following a meeting of the charity's Trustee body earlier in the month, the date of finishing the existing Mediation Service has been fixed for 31st July. The Trustees of the Centre have supported this initiative through charitable resources since it was introduced 18 months ago, and had hoped that funding would be made available through Government sources to help with future running costs. It is now clear that the Government are developing other options for the provision of mediation in the Isle of Man and the Charity can no longer support the service from its own charitable funds.

The Children Centre wholeheartedly recognises and supports the need for a Mediation Service in the Isle of Man, and welcomes the Government's intention to establish a governance structure. John Knight, Chief Executive of The Children's Centre stated;

"As a charity we have long held the belief that stimulating service provision is an important part of our remit. Whilst ending our own service is regrettable we remain interested in the future developments around mediation on Island and will monitor the situation with a keen eye. Mediation is an invaluable service and should be available to anyone going through a divorce or separation, The Children's Centre's mission to



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place children and families first is the foundation upon which the Family Mediation Service was first established and we are very proud of what this service has achieved throughout the 18 months.”

John Knight further commented, “We want to continue to enable parents to understand more fully the impact that divorce and separation can have on their children. “Through the Eyes of a Child” is a course offered by our Parent Power Team, which aims to address these issues and is offered free of charge to all parents on the island should they believe that they could benefit from taking part in the course.”

If you would like further information about the course or other parent courses and services provided by The Children's Centre, please call 676076 or www.thechildrenscentre.org.im

Ends

For further information please contact Lorna Trevethan on 01624 631919 Direct Line

Notes to Editor

The Children's Centre develops, manages and pioneers a variety of community initiatives and services aimed at enabling children, young people and families to realise their full potential. We are an independent Manx charity – undertaking our own projects and working with others – to put children, young people and families first.

The Children's Centre Ltd
Registered charity number 921

About our Services

As the Isle of Man's leading children's charity, The Children's Centre works directly with over 1,000 children, young people and families each week. We run 15 vital services across the Island, each working to address a different recognised need. We put children and young people first by offering childcare, play, adventure activities, learning opportunities, residential care and support services to enable them to realise their full potential for the future.

For families we offer support to parents from pregnancy through to dealing with the teenage years. Often little attention is paid to preparing people for this vital role, yet



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parents are key to giving children a happy and stable childhood. We provide first class services that offer practical advice on a wide range of issues such as: divorce; contact; child behaviour and budgeting; whilst at the same time offering a helping hand, and the opportunity to meet other parents.

Safe and progressive communities give everyone the freedom to flourish and are vital to the wellbeing of children and their families. Our work in communities throughout the Isle of Man aims to ensure that the needs of all children, young people and families are put first, regardless of where they live.

Press Enquiries

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