SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAM

Why is supervised visitation so important?

The purpose and goal of supervised visitations is to enable an ongoing relationship between a parent and child by impartially observing their contact in a safe and structured environment. We also facilitate and maintain appropriate child/parent interaction during supervised contact and allow the judge to make informed decisions, based on the outcome of these visits.

Another purpose of supervised visitations is to allow a safe and educational learning experience for the non-custodial parent. In our program, if the parent makes a mistake, the mental health professional is able to intervene and correct the behavior, therefore teaching the parent correct parenting skills.

Many parents and children who are separated or divorcing need help from a neutral third party to facilitate/monitor visitation between a parent and child. This is important, particularly in situations when emotions are running high between parents, in more volatile situations where you may have safety concerns for you or your child, when continued contact between a parent and their child is upheld and ordered by a judge or magistrate, and when considering your children's best interest regarding visitation issues. Often, supervised parenting time defaults in being monitored by a friend/family member who is untrained, non-neutral, which can put a child at risk.

What is the difference between "supervised visitation", "monitored exchanges" or "monitored communications"?

Supervised visitation is parenting time between a parent and child held at or another agreed upon CCPC-Ohio, LLC, agreed upon office location. The visitations are closely monitored by our staff who may intervene when necessary to ensure safe and appropriate parent/child interactions.

A monitored exchange occurs when both parents meet with a monitor at a pre-arranged neutral location to exchange their children for their scheduled parenting time. The neutral location can be at CCPC-Ohio, LLC, offices or an agreed upon off-site location. Staggered pick-up and drop-off times can be arranged so that the parents do not have to come in contact with one another. The actual exchange is monitored by our supervised visitation staff who attempts to ease the process for the children.

A monitored communication occurs when a visitation monitor supervises a phone call between a parent and their child, being monitored through conference calling, face time, or Skype.

Why "therapeutic supervised visitation"?

Therapeutic supervised visitation observes the interactions throughout the visit between a parent and child(ren) and redirects as necessary to ensure safety and security for the child(ren). Furthermore, the monitor is a mental health professional that provides redirection and education regarding appropriate parenting skills, and parent-child interaction. Therapeutic supervised visitation is also helpful when there are allegations of or substantiated abuse of a child by the visiting parent, when there is a significant history of violence or criminal activity by the visiting parent, or significant mental health/substance abuse concerns for the child or visiting parent. Therapeutic supervised visitation is not therapy and does

The Counseling and Cooperative Parenting Center of Ohio, LLC

not replace an adult or child's therapist. A therapeutic supervised visitation monitor will work with a client's therapist to provide services consistent with that client's therapeutic goals.



When might I consider using one of these services?

Therapeutic supervised visitations may be useful in situations where a parent:

- has had nonexistent or limited visitation time with his/her child(ren);
- wants to allow his/her child(ren) a slow transition into a relationship with his/herself.;
- is experiencing resistance from the other parent to allow for unsupervised visitations.
- is working on improving his/her parenting skills;
- may have a drug or alcohol abuse problem;
- has been abusive or has had trouble controlling anger; or
- may have been involved in inappropriate behavior with the child(ren).

Monitored exchanges/communications may be useful in any of the situations described above, particularly when:

- the non-custodial parent has completed treatment and is ready for unsupervised visits;
- when parents separate and engage in conflict with one another in front of their child(ren);
- when there is a history of domestic violence between parents.
- may have been involved in inappropriate behavior with the child.

How do I arrange for these services?

Most services begin via referrals from the courts, attorneys, various family services, or child protective services. Necessary information to have in a court order or agreement for services includes:

- Frequency/total hours per week that visitation time is being requested.
- Information regarding who is responsible for payment of fees for services.
- If services are court ordered/agreed upon via an entry (Note: Needs to be faxed to CCPC-Ohio at 513-229-8935 before services can begin).
- Is there a protection order, and if so does it allow for contact in supervised visitation?

Feel free to contact us at 513-229-8980 to speak further with a member of our staff about what our program may be able to do for you.

Do you offer offsite supervised visitation and exchanges?

At this time all supervised visitations are done on-site at CCPC-Ohio offices. At the start of a family's supervised visitation, no offsite visitations can occur. Later, after services have been established and only at the monitor's discretion and both parents' agreement, may offsite visits occur, but only in public places. Monitored exchanges, however, can be done both at our offices as well as offsite.

Who can come to the scheduled visit?

Only parents who have completed an intake can come to a scheduled visit. In order for someone other than a parent to be present in the visitation, prior written approval documenting mutual agreement between the parents or via a court order, is necessary. Guardian ad litems (GALs) may attend a scheduled visit.

Will I have contact with the other parent or participant?

The Counseling and Cooperative Parenting Center of Ohio, LLC

Arrival and departure times are staggered for parents at the center to avoid contact between parents. We also have policies and procedures for parking lot behaviors for participants and/or those transporting them to the visits in order to prevent contact between parents.



What if my child(ren) refuses to visit with the visiting participant?

The supervised visitation monitor reserves the right to stop a visit prior to its occurrence or while in progress if in the good-faith judgment of its staff a child(ren) is persistent with severe resistance to the visit.

What are the rates/fees for services?

Each parent is required to schedule an intake appointment to go over necessary paperwork and to ensure that he/she understands CCPC-Ohio's Supervised Visitation Program policies and procedures prior to visits taking place. A child orientation is suggested to orient the child to the facility and the monitor, but should occur at a different time than the parental intake appointments.

Supervised Visitation:	
Initial Intake Appointment:	\$55 / hour (per parent)
Child Orientation:	\$55 / hour
Therapeutic Supervised Visitation by a Masters Level Mental Health Professional:	• \$70 / hour - 1st hour; • \$40 / hour - subsequent hours
 Miscellaneous: The minimum scheduled time for a supervised visit is 1 hour. If there are protective orders in-place and/or parties are not to come in contact with one another, the minimum schedule time for a supervised visit is 1.5 hours to allow for staggered arrival and departure times. Partial times for subsequent hours are allowed at: \$10 / (per 15 minutes) 	
Monitored Exchanges/Communications:	\$25 / (per 15 minutes)

How is payment handled, ie., who pays and how is this determined?

The cost of supervised visits, if not outlined in a court order or other prior fee agreement which is disclosed to CCPC-Ohio, LLC, at the time that a service begins, will be split 50%/50% between both parents. Each parent will be 100% responsible for their individual communications, whether verbal, written, or electronic, with CCPC-Ohio, LLC, staff that each participant initiates or requires. Each parent will be 100% responsible for the writing of any initiates or requests of CCPC-Ohio, LLC, staff. CCPC-Ohio, LLC, takes MasterCard, Visa, Discover, cash and money orders. A \$200 retainer is required, the purpose of which is to pay for any peripheral services required in the course of visitation services, ie., consultations, phone calls, emails, reports.

Are these services covered by insurance?

Fees for supervised visitation services are not covered by insurance companies.