



## OKPEAP

### Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program

The Catholic Charities Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program (OKPEAP) is a NY State Certified program available to parents or other caregivers, and their significant others who have experienced conflict regarding custody and/or access issues related to their children. This group helps parents develop the skills to have a 'business' relationship with their co-parent and to refrain from putting the children in the middle of conflict. Parents/caregivers of the same children are placed in different groups; however, each group consists of a mix of both custodial and non-custodial parents/caregivers.

The groups are currently being held virtually via Zoom and consist of three 120 minute sessions. Groups are scheduled on a rotating basis according to referrals received and may be scheduled for Saturday morning, Tuesday evening, or Tuesday morning.

Topics presented will include: the impact of separation/divorce on children; child development and the implications for parenting after separation /divorce; "cooperative" and "parallel" approaches to co-parenting; an overview of family law as it affects custody and visitation; conflict management and problem-solving.

Referrals for this program can be made by anyone, including individuals, service providers and the courts. Applications can be found at <https://www.ccwny.org/services/our-kids-a-parent-education-and-awareness-program>. An application for the program can be completed and sent to Michele Wittman using the contact information below.

**For further information, contact:**  
**Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program**  
**1581 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo, NY. 14212**  
**(716) 896-6390 or fax (716) 896-4236**