

Celia O'Briant.....

MEDIATOR:

- **Certified by the NC Dispute Resolution Commission for North Carolina Superior Court and Family Financial Mediated Settlement Conferences. She is also certified for workers' compensation cases with the North Carolina Industrial Commission, and Clerk of Court Mediation.**
- **Recognized as an Advanced Practitioner Member of Association for Conflict Resolution.**
- **Serves on the Board of Directors of the NC Assoc. of Professional Family Mediators (1996-2004), President (2001) , Secretary (2007), President Elect (2008),**
- **Served on the Dispute Resolution Section Council of the NC Bar Association (2002-2005).**
- **Presenter and coach in the training programs by Mediation, Inc. for Superior Court Mediated Settlement Conferences, and Family Financial Mediation under the requirements of the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission.**
- **Presenter and coach in the 40 hour training requirements for Family/Divorce Practitioner Membership in the Association for Conflict Resolution.**
- **In private practice since 1990, Celia has experience in commercial/residential real estate and construction, worker's compensation, employment, small business and family business, personal injury, and marriage and family. She works with court referrals, companies and other private clients.**

COUNSELOR:

- **National Certified Counselor**
- **Licensed Professional Counselor in North Carolina.**

Celia has provided counseling services to college students and other adults in many different situations. Her work includes career counseling, educational counseling, family counseling, personal, relationship counseling,, and assessment of learning disabilities.

In 1970, Celia joined Alamance Community College as a counselor and in 1973 she did a market analysis of programs appropriate to expand the programs for women at

the college. Licensure of day care was beginning the next year and the needs for trained teacher-aides in K-5 and trained teachers in daycare were found to be critical at that time. See Next.

EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION:

1973 to 1981-Chairman, Department of Early Childhood Education for Alamance Community College, taught a variety of courses, and supervised students in teacher practicum.

As Head of the Department for eight years, she designed, staffed and supervised the teaching department and also the demonstration day care center. The center earned the highest certification offered by the state. Selection of teaching staff for the department and the center were critical components in the success of the department.

Even though technical students were not accepted for credit at the universities, Celia initiated college credit for top level graduates of the 2-year technical education program gaining for them Junior Status at three different colleges and universities; all who took advantage of this opportunity were very successful and graduated with 4-year degrees, some went on to master's degrees and careers as teachers and principals. These young women came from disadvantaged backgrounds or came to the program believing that a 2 year degree was all they were capable of doing.

Celia worked with University of NC, at Chapel Hill, UNC-CH, on research of communicable disease in child care facilities.

HOME ADMINSTRATOR:

In 1981-1995, Celia became the administrator of a working farm with cows, horses, barns and three little girls. Being "at home" was a privilege, and an honor! During these years Celia developed a small private school, Mountain Laurel Academy, to address the advanced educational interests of the children. (Continued below)

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

- 1981-1995 continued, Celia became the business manager of the family-owned construction company, a business for the construction of 5000 to 15,000 sq. ft. homes and commercial buildings.
- In 1991-92, Celia did the market analysis and presentation for the development of The Oaks at Spring Garden, the first large student housing property built in Greensboro, NC.

- With this and other properties, Celia continues in the management of student housing and personally held real estate.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION:

- 1967** BA in Sociology/Psychology, NC State University
- 1968** M. Ed Counseling, NC State University
- 1968-71** *add 27 hours of additional graduate credit NC State and UNC-G*
- 1989** 20-hour course Family/divorce Mediation, Smith, Asheville, NC
- 1989** 20-hour course Family/divorce Mediation, Dispute Settlement Center, Burlington, NC
- 1989** 20-hour course Family/divorce Mediation, Dispute Settlement Center, Greensboro, NC
- 1990** 40-hour Family/divorce Mediation, approved by the Association for Family Mediation, Maryland
- 1992** 40-hour Superior Court Mediation, David Straugn, Florida
- 1993** 40-hour Superior Court Mediation, Andy Little, Mediation, Inc. , NC
- 1996** 40-hour Family/Divorce Mediation, Andy Little, Mediation Inc, NC
- 1996-08** *Estimate 1000 hours of additional continuing education in mediation and related topics*