

Attachment 1

category. Also, do not count the number of times a parent received a service. For example, if a parent completed 6 supervised visits, do not place a “6” in the box.

Services such as mediation, development of parenting plans, and neutral drop-off and pick-up usually require the participation of both parents. You would report or count both parents being served on the data worksheet. Counseling or parenting education could include the participation by both or only one parent/client. Other services, like supervised visitation, usually involve the participation of one parent (i.e., non-custodial parent).

Mediation: could include, but is not limited to, court-connected or community-based services involving professionals (certified and trained as family mediators) who meet with both parents to: a) resolve parenting disputes; and b) develop a parenting plan and visitation agreement with the goal of increasing non-custodial parenting time, among others, with children (e.g. increase child support, etc.). Under the AV grant program, mediation may be voluntary or mandatory. If the parents successfully complete a parenting plan during mediation, you should count both mediation and parenting plan development as services provided. If you provide a mediation service that does not result in agreement on a parenting plan, you should still reflect in your data that you provided the mediation service. Mediation must focus on AV issues only. For example, mediation must focus on parenting-time issues rather than general divorce issues, such as property division, financial asset division, etc.

Counseling: could include, but is not limited to, professional advice or guidance provided to parents by a licensed or certified mental health professional. This provision of service is intended to help parents work through their interpersonal conflicts by focusing on the best interests of the child. Counseling must focus on the issues pertaining to AV issues. Counseling cannot focus on mental health issues, such as alcohol/drug addiction, drug testing, and/or other issues generally addressed in child welfare case plans, etc. **Counseling must not focus on domestic violence/batterer’s intervention/anger management issues.** Job/Employment counseling and services cannot be funded by the AV grant. Psychological/mental health evaluations cannot be funded by the AV grant. **If you provide counseling for children, you must be able to demonstrate how this counseling increases the access between the child and the parent. Counseling should not focus on general issues, such as the sexual abuse of children; various reasons why children might have been removed from their parents’ custody, etc. It must focus on access and visitation-related issues.**

Development of Parenting Plans: could include, but is not limited to, the development of formal or informal parenting plans or parenting agreements through services other than formal, court-ordered mediation which increase non-