







Kids In Divorce Support

Services 1585 E Leighfield Drive Suite 110 Meridian, ID 83646

# KIDS Services Offering:

Return Service Requested

Recreational Supervised Visitation Supervised Visitation Therapeutic Supervised Visits Monitored Exchanges Skype Visitation

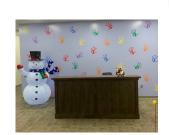
Providing services seven days a week and holidays

1585 E Leighfield Drive Suite 110 Meridian, ID 83646 Phone: (208) 375-5800 Email: visitation@kidsservices.net Website: www.kidsservices.net Servicio disponible en español.

# KIDS Services

# Kids In Divorce Support Services

### Welcome to Our New Home





KIDS Services 1585 E Leighfield Drive Suite 110 Meridian, Idaho

208.375.5800











### Nurture Yourself

Color in a coloring book Sit in a hot tub Go roller skating Do a jigsaw puzzle Rearrange your furniture Take a dance lesson Visit your library Look through old pictures Rearrange your possessions Attend a church Sing Buy new tennis Make a fire in the fireplace

Make S'mores

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### Our New Home Continued from page 1

KIDS Services is excited to introduce you to our new home. We have increased our space from 1,500 square feet to 4,000 square feet. There are four large playrooms, all equipped with activities for every age.

Families have been especially excited with the addition of Electronic Bowling, Skee-Ball, Air Hockey, and Foosball.

In addition to the many games, interactive educational toys, building activities, and imagination play centers, the rooms are equipped with the current movies and a 55" TV.

Our new kitchen has an oven for baking cookies, brownies, and other goodies.

We have a patio where families can sit outside while they eat or play games.

Next to our office complex there is a large common area where the families can run around and play games with balls or Frisbees

All rooms are equipped with video cameras providing us the capability to monitor visits from another room, allowing the family more privacy, when appropriate.

A state-of-the-art security system allows us to monitor who can enter the building and eliminates people who stop by, unannounced, taking our attention away from visits.

# Qualities of a Healthy Family

- Love.
- Joy. ...
- Peace....
- Patience....
- Kindness....
- Goodness....

## Ideas to Keep Your Kids Active This Winter

GO OUTSIDE: Just because it's cold outside does not mean you have to stay inside! The key is to bundle up. Dress in layers, wear boots instead of gym shoes, thicker, warmer socks, a hat at all times, and mittens or gloves. Moving around outside and getting your heart rate up will help keep you warm as well. Encourage your kids to walk the dog, go to the park, shoot basketball or play outside with friends.

TRY OTHER LOCATIONS: Especially in the winter months, getting out of the house can help prevent cabin fever. Try choosing a location that also incorporates physical activity like a bowling alley, local gym, indoor basketball court, roller or ice skating rink, or an indoor pool.

CHECK OUT A NEW INDOOR CLASS: If you're looking to get your kids involved in something fun and consistent, enroll them in a class. It's a great way to try something new, be active, and meet new people. Trying new things is a great way to figure out what they might like.

TRY AN EXERCISE VIDEO: If you have trouble getting to a class or don't like group activities, have your kids try a kid-friendly exercise video.

WORKOUT WHILE GAMING: If your kids love video games, why not incorporate some physical activity at the same time? Although it's probably not as beneficial as outdoor play, the latest gaming systems offer some great, family-friendly options to get everybody moving. And it can be done from the warmth of your living room.

DO EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES: Everyday activities can count as exercise too, so long as your kids are getting their heart rates up. Things like walking the dog, getting the mail, or going to the park. Incorporating these activities into your kids' daily routines will help them develop a healthy lifestyle that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Parents should encourage an hour a day, but these activities can accumulated throughout the day not necessarily all at once.

### Winter Jokes

What is the best kind of breakfast cereal to eat in the winter?

Frosted Flakes

Where do snowmen love to dance?

At a snow ball.

What did Jack Frost say to Frosty the Snowman? "Have an ice day!"

Where do snowmen keep their money?

They keep it in snowbanks.

What do snowmen like to eat for dinner? Iceburgers!

If your reindeer lost his tail. where would you go to buy him a new one?

A retail store!

What's a snowman's favorite candy? Sno-Caps.

What snack should you make for the Snowman Holiday Party?

"Ice Krispy treats."

How can you scare a snowman? Point a hair dryer at him.

An icicle fell off the roof and hit a snowman on the head. What happened next? He was knocked out cold



WINTER WONDERLAND CALDWELL, IDAHO

### Making Divorce Less Traumatic for Kids

by Dr. Charles Fay, Love and Logic

Tip #1: Assure your kids the divorce is not their fault.

Children, especially younger ones, have a strong tendency to blame themselves for the divorce. What a horrible burden of guilt to bear! From you and your former spouse, they need to hear the following message over and over:

Some kids blame themselves for their parents getting a divorce. It was not your fault. We love you.

Tip #2: Avoid bad mouthing your ex-spouse, even in subtle ways.

As we all know, small ears BY A FAMILY PROBLEM, hear more than big ones!

Kids need to know that it's okay to love both of you. Don't place your child in a loyalty conflict by subtly suggesting that they should not love the other parent or have fun when they visit them. One father made this mistake in a very subtle yet damaging way. Each time he picked up the kids at his ex-wife's, he would greet them with a worried look and ask nervously, "Are you guys okay? Did your visit go okay?"

It wasn't long before the kids started to believe they weren't supposed to have an "okay" time at Mom's house

Oftentimes, these more subtle jabs are the most powerfully damaging.

Tip #3: Don't waste time and energy trying to "convert" your former spouse to your parenting style.

Some divorced parents waste precious time and energy fighting a never-ending control battle with their former spouse over how to parent the kids.

Children adjust to different

parenting styles, as long as their parents aren't manipulated into giving in or getting angry. When your kids say things like, "But Dad lets us," experiment, saying the following, while not

backina down:

SEEK THE ASSISTANCE

OF A TRAINED COUNSELOR ...

You're pretty lucky to have two parents who are different. Thanks for letting me know.

### Tip #4: Don't hesitate to seek qualified professional help.

Our children will never be healthier than we are. The trauma of divorce can result in major financial stress, lost friendships, depression, low self-esteem, anger, etc. A skilled therapist can help you and your kids move on to happier times, instead of getting bogged down in the pain.



### Parenting on Your Own

A person can become a single or sole parent for many different reasons. You may have chosen to start a family on your own, you may be separated or divorced, or your partner may have died.

As a sole parent, you may worry about whether you can create the happy, healthy family environment your child needs. The good news is: you absolutely can.

Facts about single parenting:

- Children raised by one parent are generally just as happy as children raised by two.
- A sole parent can provide the secure emotional base, clear boundaries, love and warmth children need.
- Children can thrive with one loving role model.
- Spending time together is the real key to a happy and mentally healthy child.

Family types are increasingly complex. If you are a sole parent, part of a two-parent family, or one of the myriad of diverse family types, you can feel positive about your parenting if:

 You're confident about your parenting most of the time.

- You're concerned about being a good parent.
- You call on family and friends to support you in your parenting.

Parenting practices are more important than who's in the family.

Positive parenting practices might include:

- Two-way communication that is loving, understanding and patient.
- Sharing activities and time together.
- Supporting and encouraging each other.
- Showing affection.
- Accepting the differences between family members.

Of course, this is not always easy when outside factors, such as support and finances, place pressure on the family dynamics.

Single parenting may be challenging, but it also offers rewards.

Single parenting can allow you plenty of time with your child, which can be very beneficial to both of you. Your bond is likely strengthened, if you use consistent, positive practices.

Co-parenting. It's not a competition between two homes. It's a collaboration of parents doing what is best for the kids.

- Heather Hetchler www.CafeSmom.com





Make a positive difference in your children's lives.
Act and speak about your co-parent with respect and integrity.

- Allson Pascosolido, MA.

This is probably one of the most difficult challenges any parent could face—learning to love the other parent enough to make the children first.

What kind of Co-Parent are you? · Speak Negatively Speak positively about Co-Parent about Co-Parent in front of child front of child Encourage child to Discourage time with Co-Parent and spend time with Co-Parent put them down Respectful of Sabotage time with Co-Parent and their child by calling time with child obsessively and being disruptive