

# NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF COLLABORATIVE PROFESSIONALS

Presents

## Families with Special Needs Children in Collaborative Divorce

**A Panel Discussion with Legal, Financial and Psychological Experts  
Judith L. Poller, J.D., Michelle Smith, CFP, Margaret L. Herzog, Ph.D.**

**Thursday, April 28, 2010 – 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**The Williams Club – 24 East 39<sup>th</sup> Street – New York, New York**

- A light dinner will be provided -

**NYACP members attending the program are eligible for 1 Meeting Credit**

**Attorneys attending this program are eligible for 2 CLE credits in Skills**

This evening program will address the unique needs of families with children who have special needs. Topics to be addressed include:

- \* How do you define a “special needs” child
- \* Essential factors to consider in a divorce settlement
- \* Necessary estate and financial planning
- \* Psychological impact of a special needs child on divorce negotiations and post divorce issues
- \* How special needs children may affect relationships with siblings, and the divorce process

**Judith L. Poller** is a partner and Co-Chair of the Family Law Group at Pryor Cashman LLP. Her practice is focused on providing counsel in a broad range of matrimonial and family law matters including divorce, child custody and access, spousal and child support, paternity, and prenuptial, postnuptial and separation agreements, including same sex partner cohabitation agreements. She has extensive trial and appellate experience in addition to settlement resolutions, mediation and collaborative law, and has chaired several seminars for the Association of the Bar of the City of New York including *Complex Child Custody Conundrums: Navigating the Labyrinth*, and has spoken on *Special Planning - A Primer on the Legal and Financial Issues for Consideration when Parents with Special Needs Children are Divorcing* as well as *Special Needs: Special Planning/Legal and Financial Issues in Divorce for the Special Needs Child*.

**Michelle Smith** is a Certified Financial Planner, Certified Divorce Financial Analyst, and divorce mediator who has dedicated the last 11 years of her career to helping clients deal with the financial aspects of divorce. A divorced mother with an 8 year old son who has Down syndrome, she has an acute awareness and unparalleled personal and professional expertise with special needs and divorce. She was a significant contributor to the article recently published in the *American Journal of Family Law* titled Financial and Legal Issues in a Divorce When There is a Special Needs Child. She is Co-Founder of the first Inclusion elementary school in New York City, The IDEAL School of Manhattan which educates both special needs and typically developing children Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She is a NYACP member.

**Dr. Peggy Herzog** is a Clinical Psychologist, Collaborative Mental Health Specialist and Child Specialist who has worked with children and families for the past 28 years, with a specialty in child and family issues, children with special needs, acute illness, learning disabilities, developmental and physical delays, divorce and child bereavement. A former staff member of the Child Development and Learning Center at Long Island Jewish Hospital and The Center for Preventive Psychiatry, she is in private practice in Larchmont, New York. She is a NYACP member.

**For more information contact Patricia Marcus at 347 462-9868  
or via email at [pmarcus@nycollaborativeprofessionals.org](mailto:pmarcus@nycollaborativeprofessionals.org)**

Return this form via fax to 347 462-3867

Registration fee - \$35 for NYACP members - \$40 for non-members

I will attend the Families with Special Needs Children in Collaborative Divorce Panel Discussion on April 28, 2010

I will pay by check or charge my credit card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

