

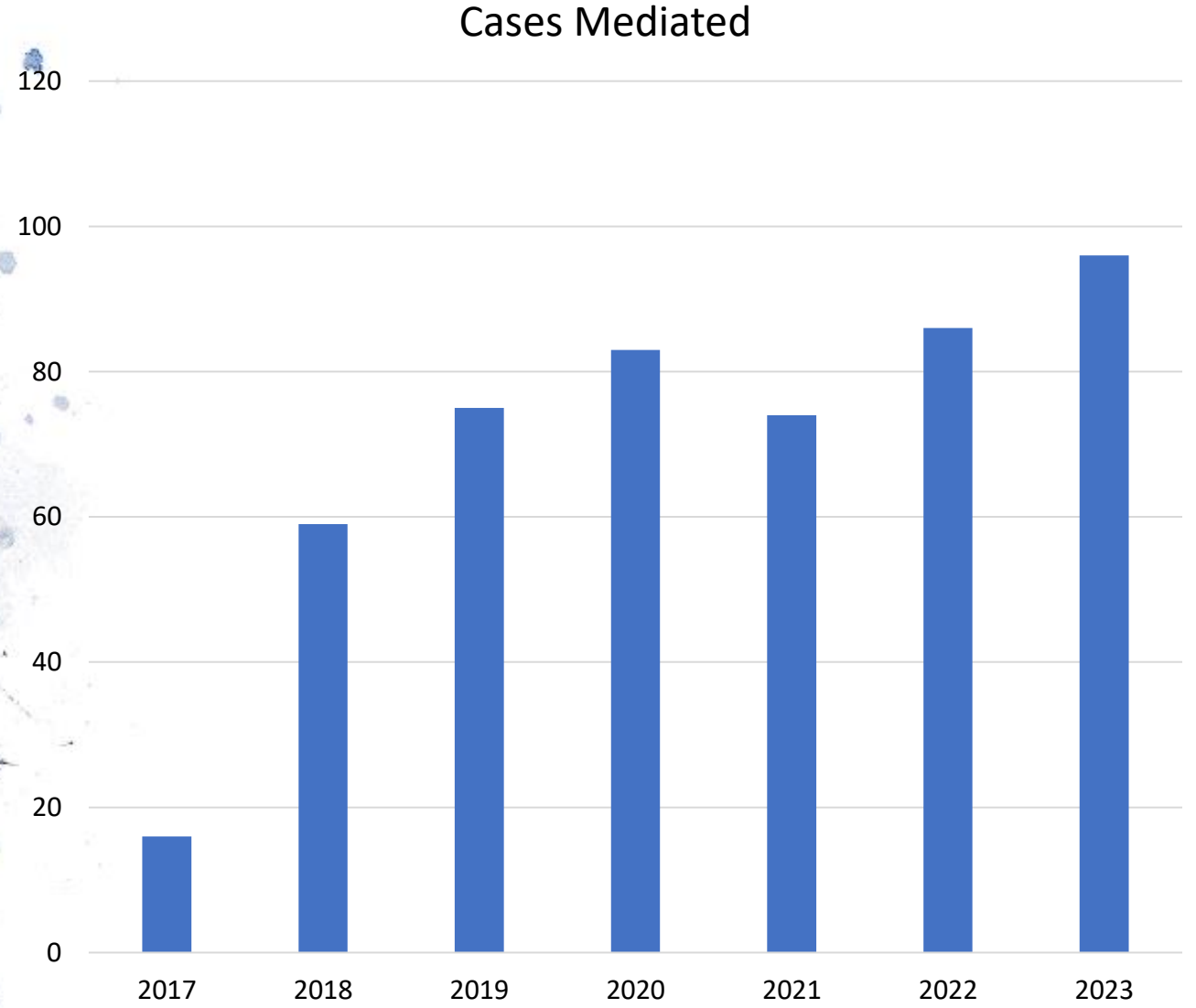


reunite

INTERNATIONAL

helping families on child abduction

Number of International Children's Cases Mediated



Mediation in Child Abduction Cases: Making It Work

- Establish an effective infrastructure
- Create a safe environment for parents
- What is a successful mediation?

Establish an Effective Infrastructure

For mediation/amicable agreements to flourish there needs to be:

- An effective legal framework in place
- Specialist mediators
- Financial support for parents to participate in mediation
- Support from the judiciary and the legal profession
- The ability of the mediation service to demonstrate its independence from the court process
- A mechanism for ensuring mediated agreements can be recognised and enforced across jurisdictions

Create a Safe Environment For Parents

- Robust assessment meeting at outset of process
- Explore issues such as domestic abuse, including coercive and controlling behaviour
- Explore issues such as mental and emotional health, risk taking behaviour, substance misuse
- Appropriate safeguards/safety planning
- Use of shuttle mediation

What is a successful mediation?

- Reaching an agreement
- Opening/improving communication
- Exploring options
- Better understanding of positions, needs and wishes
- Preparing for a judicial decision



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