



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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A PRESENT OF SNOWMAN SOUP



On Tuesday mornings at 10:00, students from Taylor School come to the Northern Community Mediation office and help us clean. They tackle the dusting, vacuuming, restrooms, emptying trash and floor sweeping. In appreciation of the outstanding job that they do, the NCM staff put together the ingredients for snowman soup in Christmas mugs and gave them to the kids for a Christmas present. The ingredients for snowman soup are a package of hot cocoa mix with marshmallows, a candy cane for stirring, and Hershey kisses just for eating. Pictured above are Amanda Berry (on the left) with her teacher Tami Arms.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held at noon on Thursday, January 17, 2013. We will meet at City Park Grill in Petoskey. This meeting is open to the public. We hope that you will be able to attend. Those in attendance will be able to order lunch off the regular menu at their own expense. If you plan to attend, please call the NCM office to let us know.

A REAL PROFESSIONAL

Did you know that mediator Conni Zingler has a specific brief case in which she carries her mediator notes and other necessary papers relating to her mediations?

ANOTHER DID YOU KNOW

Mediator Carolyn Belknap is a trained Red Cross emergency volunteer. Shortly after being trained, she was deployed to help the communities and victims of Hurricane Sandy.

A BIG THANK YOU

Northern Community Mediation received a grant from the Petoskey Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation so that 12 new, stackable chairs could be purchased. These upholstered chairs have replaced the foldable, metal chairs that were in two of our breakout rooms. Next time you are at the office, take a look at them. Even better, sit down in them and see how comfortable they are.

ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU

The Bay Harbor Foundation approved a grant application in the amount of \$3,547 to help subsidize Northern Community Mediation's programs that involve youth. These programs include Child Protection Mediation, Victim-Offender Reconciliation, Shoplifting, Access & Visitation and School Attendance Mediation. Support such as this goes a long way towards helping NCM have a balanced budget.

SPEAKING OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

In order to accommodate most everyone who has expressed interest in the School Attendance Mediation training, we will offer the workshop on two dates: Monday, January 21 and Thursday, January 24. Both sessions will be from 2:00pm to 4:30pm. For those of you who plan to participate, please confirm on which date you will attend. If you could do so by January 11, it would be appreciated. Assuming that this pilot project with Pellston Public Schools is successful, we will expand the program into other school districts. At that time, we will offer the training once again.

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Unfortunately, three of this year's board members will be going off the board: Toni Arthur, Michelle Cortright and Bill Denemy. We thank them for their services. Coming onto the board is Chief Judge Allie Greenleaf Maldonado. Welcome, Allie.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Of all nature's gifts to the human race, what is sweeter to a man than his children? – Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 BC)

USELESS FACT

An outbreak of lice occurred among the children cast members during the filming of "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets."