



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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OUTREACH



Last fall, Kathy Lame worked in collaboration with Dave Keller to offer a hybrid, 40-hour training workshop for tribal members of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa. Dave is seated to Kathy's left in the above picture. The others in the picture are the participants in the seminar.

WELCOME BACK

Connie Saltonstall recently returned from a three-week trip to South Africa. It was a combination humanitarian and pleasure trip. Hopefully, she will have some interesting stories and pictures to share with us.

CHARLEVOIX OFFICE

In order to save money, there will no longer be internet service or fax capability at the Charlevoix office. You will be able to receive and make phone calls. However, if the phone has not been answered after two rings, the call will automatically be transferred to the Petoskey office.

If you use the Charlevoix office during a mediation, please remember to pick-up after yourself. Thanks.

AGREEMENT RATES

The agreement rate for all cases mediated/conciliated in 2006 was 87%. For court-referred cases the agreement rate was 87.9%.

THEATRE PARTY

Get your tickets for the Theatre Party on Tuesday, March 13. Delicious food will be served from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. At 6:15 pm, door prizes will be given away, and there will be a 50/50 raffle. Then at 7:00 pm, you can choose from one of eight movies to attend.

Tickets are only \$25 per person. WHAT A DEAL! Feel free to help sell tickets. Feel free to invite a friend to come along. HELP SUPPORT NCM.

DIVORCE ISSUES

John Berndt, Connie Saltonstall and Kathy Lame met with Bert Rousseau and Jane Millar to discuss ways in which we could make the intake and mediation of divorce cases more efficient and effective. Discussion at this meeting also involved the fact that we are in need of more mediators who are divorce trained. Unfortunately, the only certified training in Michigan is facilitated by Zena Zumeta at a cost of \$1500 per person.

Consequently, our center has decided to offer a workshop consisting of four three-hour sessions. Although this training will not qualify for certification as a divorce-trained mediator, it will serve our purposes in that we could then partner a certified mediator with someone who has participated in this specialized training.

We have tentatively scheduled the first three sessions from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on the following dates:

- Thursday, April 26 – Divorce Law & Process
- Thursday, May 31 – Domestic Violence
- Thursday, June 14 – Divorce Issues

The fourth session, which will focus on Children in Divorce, has yet to be scheduled.

Let us know if you are interested in participating.

NEWSPAPER CELEBRITIES

As a staff member of the Women's Resource Center, Jamie Winters was featured in an article in the *Petoskey News-Review* that addressed the issue of homelessness as it relates to battered women.