



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

March 2017

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NCM ANNUAL MEETING



Back row from left to right: Christian Smith, Mark Fralick, Brian Kasiborski, Kirk Raymond. Front row from left to right: Ed Engstrom, Kate Scollin, Stuart Fenton, Jane Millar, Bob Banner, Julie Kuchnicki, Chelsea Platte

On Monday, February 27, Northern Community Mediation held its annual Board Retreat at the Boyne City Tap Room. President Kate Scollin began by giving an overview of the topics to be covered during the workshop. Board member Chelsea Platte then reviewed the mission of NCM and introduced the concept that an organization needs two visions. The organizational vision relates to internal, everyday operations, whereas the societal vision focuses upon the external goals and objectives. Following each of these explanations, board members shared their visions within each of these categories. Board member Christian Smith then led the group through an exercise that introduced the idea of a fundraising calendar. Not only was the retreat productive, it was a fun time for all in attendance. A special thanks goes to the wait staff at the Boyne City Tap Room, especially Connor who took very good care of us.

LEADERSHIP LITTLE TRAVERSE (LLT)

In last month's newsletter, reference was made to LLT's fundraiser for playground equipment for the Women's Resource Center. Case Manager Kirstyn Horan is in the LLT class and was the spokesperson on a *Petoskey News-Review* podcast promoting the project and encouraging donations. Way to go, Kirstyn.

USELESS FACT

December is Latin for "too many obligations."

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL THEATRE PARTY

On Monday, March 13, NCM will host its annual Theatre Party at the Petoskey Cinema. It is hard to believe that this event will have been going on for 13 years. And, ticket prices have not increased over the years. For \$25, people can still have dinner, a chance to win a door prize, participate in a 50/50 raffle, and go to one of eight movies. This is still the best deal in town. Four new restaurants will be joining us this year: Big E's Smokehouse, Duffy's Garage & Grill, Hot Doggers and Petoskey Cheese. Still with us are City Park Grill, D&W Fresh Market, Jet's Pizza and Kilwin's of Petoskey. If you have not yet purchased your tickets, just call the NCM office (231.487.1771), and we will send them out to you.

FORTY-HOUR TRAINING

Just a reminder that the 40-hour training is coming up in May. If you know of anyone interested in participating, have them in touch with us at 231.487.1771 or by going to <http://www.northernmediation.org/forty-hour-training-100/> on the NCM website. The dates and times for the training are below:

At the Charlevoix Library

Monday, May 22

Tuesday, May 23

Wednesday, May 24

At the Demmer Wellness Center

Wednesday, May 31

Thursday, June 1

HARD WORKING STAFF

There have been 42 workdays since the beginning of the year. Within those 42 days, Case Managers Karen Cole and Kirstyn Horan have opened 192 cases. That means that they averaged opening 4.57 cases per day. And, that does not include everything else that they have to do see a case through to disposition. No wonder they are exhausted when they go home at night.

BEAVER ISLAND IN THE NEWS

On January 26, Executive Director Jane Millar conducted two workshops on Beaver Island. The first was for students and faculty at the school, and the second was with community members. The purpose of the sessions was to help people understand that conflict is not necessarily bad. It is how we handle conflict that makes it positive or negative.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Worry often gives a small thing a big shadow. ~ English Proverb