



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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DISPLAY



We are still very proud of the new look that Northern Community Mediation has when we participate in events, such as the Chamber Expos, Information Summit, Project Connect, and even both Theatre Parties. Thank you Petoskey–Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation.

MEDIATOR NEWS

1. Congratulations to mediator Brian Kasiborski and his wife on the birth of their third child. Daughter Quinn was born on Sunday, October 16, weighing in at 6lbs. 15oz.
2. Speaking of Brian Kasiborski, he will be coming on as a new NCM board member in January.
3. Our thoughts are with mediator Carolyn Belknap. Her mother has dementia, and so both of her parents moved into an assisted living facility. Shortly after their relocation, her father fell and broke his hip.
4. On a more positive side, board member Bill Meengs is seeking his first term on the Board of Directors of the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce.

SPEAKING OF THE CHAMBER

Congratulations to the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce on being recognized as Michigan’s Outstanding Chamber of Commerce in the mid-size category.

CLARIFICATION

When mediating a divorce or Access & Visitation case,

- If the parents have opted out of Friend of the Court (meaning that they are not using the FOC), the issue of child support can be discussed and what they agree upon can and should be written into the agreement
- If the parents are going through the FOC, child support can still be discussed, but anything agreed upon is subject to the approval of the FOC.

LEADERSHIP LITTLE TRAVERSE

Case Manager Kirstyn Horan is participating in Leadership Little Traverse, a program sponsored by the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce. The mission of the program is to inspire and prepare leaders in the Little Traverse Bay Region. In doing so, the participants enhance their skills as leaders, are exposed to community challenges, have an opportunity to grow professionally and personally, and gain greater understanding of the community. Past case manager Bert Rousseau went through this program several years ago. It should also be noted that Charlevoix County has a similar program entitled Leadership Charlevoix County.

ANOTHER CLARIFICATION

Approximately 25% of NCM’s funding comes from the State Court Administrative Office. The funding is based upon a weighted caseload. Consequently, more money is received for cases that tend to be more complex and time consuming. For example, the per case allotment for breach of contract cases is less than for divorce cases. Whether or not an agreement is reached does not impact the funding.

CONSIDER THIS

The mediation model includes having the participants brainstorm out loud together. What would happen if the mediators asked each of the parties to take 10 to 15 minutes to write down separately a list of options?

USELESS FACT

Raindrops are shaped like hamburger buns, not teardrops.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I’ve had to take a second job working in a bakery. I knead the dough.