



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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HELLO & GOODBYE



Pictured from left to right: Caroline Smith, Kirstyn Horan, Kristy Whitman

Friday, November 3 will be Kirstyn Horan's last day as a case manager for NCM. She has been offered a position at the Health Department that is a career advancement—one to which she cannot say no. That is part of the bad news.

The good news is that her replacement has already begun her training. Caroline Smith is a recent graduate from The University of Michigan. She received a Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Political Science and in Sociology with sub plan in Law, Justice and Social Change. She plans to enter law school in the fall of 2018. She will be working with us through the end of May. This arrangement could not be more ideal because we have a qualified person to carry on in the absence of Kirsty, and we have time to find a permanent person for the position.

However, there is more bad news. Administrative Assistant Kristy Whitman has accepted a job at Bear River Electric. Again, this decision was a matter of a career opportunity. Although her last day will be Thursday, November 9, Kristy will continue to work 10 hours per week for NCM through the end of November. Then, she will work 4 hours per week until we can find a replacement for her.

It goes without saying that both Kirstyn and Kristy will be missed, not only because they are excellent employees but also because our staff is truly one of friendship.

If you know of someone who might be interested in being a Case Manager or an Administrative Assistant, let me know. Keep in mind that we are looking for qualified people who value working in a demanding but fun environment.

THEATRE PARTY IN CHARLEVOIX

The 2nd annual, Charlevoix Theatre Party was very successful. Not only did people have a good time, we made \$2,593.66. Normally, in this edition of the newsletter, we would be listing all of the sponsors and supporters. Due to our having so many newsworthy topics, that list will be in next month's newsletter.

WEBSITE

On this coming Thursday, November 2, the NCM website will have a new look. We are very excited about it. Abuzz Creative has done a wonderful job. There is only one caveat; not everything is totally updated. Have patience. Give us a little time to get all of the pieces in place.

FOLLOW UP

In last month's newsletter, it was mentioned that Case Manager Karen Cole had been invited to address the Lake County Trial Court in Baldwin to discuss our Child Protection Mediation Program. The response to her presentation is best described by Christine Gilman, who is the Executive Director of the CDRP center in Grand Rapids. "You did a fabulous job. Looks like you inspired the folks from Lake County to keep moving forward. We set up a steering committee as you were leaving, and have another meeting scheduled for December." WAY TO GO, KAREN!

SPECIAL EDITION

Look for a special edition of our newsletter on Friday, November 3. Have a Kleenex handy.

SYMPATHY

Our thoughts are with mediator Christine Gebhard whose 90-year-old father is very ill. Christine has gone out to California to be with him.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Pride, commitment, Teamwork. Words we use to get you to work for free. ~ Anonymous

USELESS FACT

A blue whale's heart is so big that a small child can swim through its veins.