



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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AMERICAN VETERANS MEDIATION PROGRAM



Karen shows her certificate to Kristy and Kirstyn.

From 4:00pm to 5:00pm on Thursday, September 28, NCM held a workshop to review the American Veterans Mediation Program recently implemented by NCM. Executive Director Jane Millar shed light on the background for the program and how it came about. Guest speaker Pete Pallas, who is the ombudsman for Employer Support of The Guard and Reserve, explained his role in working with soldiers who are in the Guard and Reserve. This was followed by an explanation as to how the new program will work, along with a question and answer session.

DONOR CAMPAIGN

We have only \$346 more to go to reach our goal of \$5,000 for the 2017 donor campaign. To date, 38 people have contributed. If you have not yet made a donation to NCM and have been planning to do so—or even if you have not been planning to do so—why not get out your check book and make a contribution that is affordable to you. For those who have already given, thank you, and thank you to those of you who are about to give.

A GURU IN OUR MIDST

The Lake County Trial Court in Baldwin is contemplating the implementation of a neglect/abuse mediation program. Because of NCM's reputation as a leader in this field, Case Manager Karen Cole has been invited to meet with all agencies involved. She will give a brief presentation and then answer questions and address concerns of the participants. All of this will take place at 10:00am on Friday, October 27. Way to go Karen.

THEATRE PARTY IN CHARLEVOIX

If you have not yet purchased your tickets for the Charlevoix Theatre Party, it is time to do so. From 5:30pm to 7:00pm, we will all gather at the East Park Tavern for a delicious array of appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks. For those of you who attended last year, you know what a feast it was. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. At 6:30 there will be a drawing for great door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Then, everyone will go down to the Charlevoix Cinema for a chance to see one of three movies beginning at 7:15. Tickets still remain at \$25 per person. So, call 231.487.1771 to reserve your tickets.

ALWAYS LEARNING

Three members of the NCM team (mediator Hugh Conklin; board member, attorney and mediator Ed Engstrom; and Case Manager and mediator Karen Cole) attended the 32nd Annual MACM (Michigan Association for Court Mediators) Conference from September 13 through September 15 at the Homestead Resort in Glen Arbor. Conference participants received 13.5 hours of advanced, domestic mediator training. Topics included the relationships of child development and divorce, parental alienation, intimate partner violence and parenting coordination.

CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION PROGRAM

Through a by-invitation-only grant from the Michigan Office of Dispute Resolution, NCM is participating in a longitudinal study relating to the Child Protection Mediation Program. A similar study was conducted in 2004. The purpose of the present study is to update the data gathered during the 2004 study.

On Monday, October 2, Dr. Chris Kierkus and Dr. Brian Johnson from Grand Valley State University will be up North to interview court personnel, mediators and staff members who are involved with child protection mediation in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

After suffering through years of his wife's awful coffee, the man spat it out and took the coffee maker to his lawyer. Dropping it on the attorney's desk, the man growled, "Here they are!"

"Here are what?" the startled lawyer asked.
"Grounds for Divorce."

USELESS FACT

Most American car horns honk in the key of F.