

CDRS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 001 No. 1
August 1996

Hello to all! The board of directors is going to try to do a better job of keeping mediators informed about what is happening with our group via a periodic newsletter. This is our first effort. We welcome your input and comments. -

Tina DeMoore & Kathy Lame

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Changes

OUR INTAKE WORKER, CELIA KELLY, HAS RESIGNED FROM HER POSITION AND FROM THE BOARD. KATHY LAME HAS ASSUMED THE POSITION TEMPORARILY AS A VOLUNTEER. THE CDRS PHONE NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME - 547-1171. YOU CAN REACH KATHY BY FAX AT 547-3067. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT KATHY'S ON-THE-JOB EFFORTS WILL ALLOW US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND DESCRIBE THE POSITION WHEN LOOKING TO HIRE SOMEONE.

Publicity

HOPEFULLY, EVERYONE HAS SEEN KATHY'S EFFORTS AT CDRS PUBLICITY. WE NOW APPEAR WEEKLY IN TEA TABLE TALK IN THE *PETOSKEY NEWS REVIEW* AS WE DID SOME TIME AGO. DAVE FERSHEE AND JUDGE RICHARD MAY APPEARED ON PACE TELEVISION TO DISCUSS MEDIATION AND THE DISTRICT COURT PROJECT THIS SPRING. EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY TO GET A COPY OF THE PROGRAM FOR THOSE WHO MISSED IT AND FOR PUBLICITY PRESENTATIONS. WE ALSO GOT SOME PROGRAM RECOGNITION AT THE LAW DAY LUNCH ON MAY 1 AND IN A RECENT *PETOSKEY NEWS REVIEW* ARTICLE WHICH HIGHLIGHTED THE DISTRICT COURT PROJECT. KATHY IS WORKING ON A FORM LETTER TO

SEND TO VARIOUS COMMUNITY GROUPS OFFERING SPEAKERS FROM CDRS. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS AS TO GROUPS WE MIGHT CONTACT, PLEASE LET KATHY KNOW. ALSO, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A SPEAKER, GIVE KATHY A CALL. WE HAVE VARIOUS VIDEOS AVAILABLE TO USE AT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IF YOU NEED/WANT THEM.

District Court Project

MEDIATION AT DISTRICT COURT IS GOING WELL. WEEKLY, WE USUALLY GET AT LEAST ONE CASE WHERE THE PARTIES TRY MEDIATION AND SOMETIMES MORE! MURRAY KILGOUR HAS BEEN ON THE JOB EVERY WEDNESDAY WITH KATHY LAME, TINA DEMOORE AND BILL SHUMAKER ROTATING ON ALTERNATIVE WEEKS. JIM EDWARDS, AN EXPERIENCED MEDIATOR FROM FLORIDA WHO RESIDES HERE IN THE SUMMER, WILL BE ASSISTING AT EMMET DISTRICT COURT AS WELL. REMINDER TO DISTRICT COURT MEDIATORS: PLEASE CALL IN WEEKLY TO KATHY LAME WITH DETAILS OF ANY CASES MEDIATED SO WE CAN INCLUDE THEM IN OUR CASE COUNT.

WE NEED MORE DISTRICT COURT MEDIATORS! IF YOU HAVE MEDIATED AND ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL TINA AT 347-8067. IF YOU ARE STILL OBSERVING AND NEED MORE OBSERVATION HOURS, DISTRICT COURT IS A GOOD TRAINING GROUND. CDRS VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE EACH WEDNESDAY BEGINNING AT 12:30 P.M. WE ARE USUALLY DONE BY 1:30 P.M. OR SOONER. ONCE WE HAVE THIS EFFORT RUNNING SMOOTHLY, WE'LL TALK TO JUDGE MAY AND HIS STAFF

ABOUT OFFERING MEDIATION IN CHARLEVOIX COUNTY SMALL CLAIMS COURT.

In Kind Records

WE NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB AS A GROUP AT DOCUMENTING OUR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS SINCE WE MUST MATCH STATE FUNDING ANNUALLY WITH MONEY CONTRIBUTIONS OR "IN KIND TIME DONATIONS." HENCE, THE FOLDERS AND TIME SHEETS ATTACHED. PLEASE MAKE AN ENTRY EVERY TIME YOU DO SOMETHING FOR CDRS. EVERYTHING SHOULD BE RECORDED - TELEPHONE CALLS, TIME MEDIATING, PUBLICITY EFFORTS, ETC. ETC. INCLUDE THE DATE OF THE ACTIVITY, A DESCRIPTION OF WHAT YOU DID, THE VOLUNTEER CLASSIFICATION AND TIME SPENT.

THE VOLUNTEER TIME SHEETS INDICATE THE DIFFERENT CLASSIFICATIONS OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY THAT THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS' OFFICE RECOGNIZES. PLEASE CLASSIFY EACH ACTIVITY YOU DO BECAUSE THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE (SCAO) ATTACHES A DIFFERENT MONEY VALUE TO EACH CLASSIFICATION. KATHY HAS TRIED TO RECREATE AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE THE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY FOR 1995 AND 1996, TO DATE, BASED ON RECORDS AVAILABLE TO HER. PLEASE REVIEW YOUR TIME SHEETS, MAKE ANY CORRECTIONS AND ADD ALL TIME YOU HAVE SPENT IN 1995 AND 1996 WHICH IS NOT LISTED. THIS IS CRITICAL! IF YOU RECEIVED A 1995 TIME SHEET WITH THIS MAILING, PLEASE SIGN IT AND RETURN IT TO KATHY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU DIDN'T RECEIVE A 1995 TIME SHEET BUT EXPENDED TIME IN 1995, PREPARE A 1995 TIME SHEET, SIGN AND RETURN IT TO KATHY RIGHT AWAY!

WE ARE REQUIRED TO SHOW 1995 TIME SHEET RECORDS FOR OUR FIRST EVER SCAO AUDIT IN AUGUST. PLEASE BE DILIGENT ABOUT KEEPING TIME RECORDS FOR 1996 AS THE TIME ACCRUED IS REPORTABLE AT THE END OF THE YEAR. PLAN TO SUBMIT THE 1996 RECORDS TO KATHY BY DECEMBER 31, 1996 AND SEMI-ANNUALLY THEREAFTER.

Education

ALTHOUGH OUR CENTER DOES NOT CURRENTLY HAVE ANY TRAINING PLANNED, WE DO OCCASIONALLY GET INFORMATION FROM OTHER CENTERS ABOUT TRAINING CDRS MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN IF THEY WISH. IF YOU WANT TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH OTHER CENTERS OR HAVE SOMETHING SPECIFIC YOU ARE LOOKING FOR, PLEASE LET KATHY KNOW.

AS OF JULY 1, 1996 CDRS CENTERS ARE FORMALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AS PROVIDERS OF MEDIATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION DISPUTES. CDRS HAS ADVISED CHAR-EM ISD THAT WE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEDIATE THESE DISPUTES AND TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS TO ISD STAFF AND PARENTS. CDRS CAN SEND UP TO 3 MEDIATORS FOR A SPECIAL TRAINING. TRAINING IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 13 & 14 AT THE HOLIDAY INN IN TRAVERSE CITY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL KATHY. THE NAMES WILL HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED IN AUGUST.

WE ARE ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COMMUNITY DISPUTE RESOLUTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, VOL 1 - NO. 1. THE NEXT ISSUE WILL CONTAIN MEMBERSHIP FORMS FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN JOINING.

In Memoriam

JOHAN CLEVIN, ONE OF OUR MEDIATORS, DIED EARLIER THIS SUMMER IN A SINGLE-VEHICLE CAR ACCIDENT. WE REMEMBER HIM AS A KIND AND GENTLE INDIVIDUAL WITH A MISCHIEVOUS SENSE OF HUMOR. HE WILL BE MISSED. OUR SYMPATHIES TO HIS FAMILY.

Board Meeting/ Board Members

OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1996 AT NOON AT BIG BOY. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. WE URGE ALL BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND. WE DID NOT HAVE A QUORUM OF 7 AT OUR MAY AND JUNE MEETINGS. WE HAVE A LOT TO DO AND CAN'T CONDUCT BUSINESS WITHOUT A QUORUM. WE REALLY NEED BOARD MEMBERS WILLING TO COMMIT TO MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE AND TO A COUPLE ADDITIONAL HOURS A MONTH OF COMMITTEE WORK. THIS TIME COMMITMENT IS NEEDED TO MOVE THE ORGANIZATION FORWARD - THANKS!

GOODBYE AND THANKS TO CHRIS ASBURY WHO IS NO LONGER A BOARD MEMBER AND WELCOME BACK TO MURRAY KILGOUR WHO HAS RESUMED HIS BOARD POSITION. A LIST OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS (*) AND CDRS MEMBERS WITH ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS IS ATTACHED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

NEW BOARD COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS ARE:

SEARCH COMMITTEE - CHAIR
GAIL EDWARDS

DISTRICT COURT PROJECT - CHAIR
TINA DEMOORE

SPEAKERS' BUREAU & PUBLICITY -
CHAIR KATHY LAME

TRAINING EDUCATION & MEDIATOR
OUTREACH - CHAIR JANET ORDIWAY

FUND RAISING AND FINANCE - CHAIR
NEEDED

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR INPUT REGARDING A CERTAIN CDRS UNDERTAKING OR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SOMETHING NEW, PLEASE CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE HEAD OR ANY BOARD MEMBER.

Statistics/ Evaluations

SINCE JANUARY 1996 CDRS HAS MEDIATED 13 CASES. EIGHT WERE MEDIATED SUCCESSFULLY AND FIVE CAME TO NO AGREEMENT. OUR REFERRALS INCLUDE ONE PRIVATE ATTORNEY, ONE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING AND THE COURT SYSTEM.

THE RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION OF CDRS BY HARRY MIKA WAS JUST RECEIVED. A COPY IS ATTACHED FOR ALL TO REVIEW. IF YOU WISH TO RESPOND OR OFFER COMMENT REGARDING THE REPORT, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR THOUGHTS IN WRITING TO KATHY OR TINA FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING.

For Your Information

REMEMBER - COMMUNICATION IS
7% WORDS
55% TONE OF VOICE
38% BODY LANGUAGE

ENJOY THE REST OF THE SUMMER NOW THAT IT'S FINALLY ARRIVED!



THANK YOU TO KAREN TANK FOR HER VOLUNTEER TYPING AND DESKTOP PUBLISHING EFFORTS IN PRODUCING THIS NEWSLETTER.