

NEWSLETTER Notes September 1997

CHANGES:

As of August 1, 1997 CDRS moved into an office in the lower level of Charlevoix City Hall. This enables other volunteers to assist Kathy when she is out of the office or out of town. Charlevoix City Hall is located at 210 State street across the street from the county building. The phone number remains 547-1771.

OUTREACH AND PROMOTION:

Since May, CDRS has done 20 presentations to service organization, schools, law enforcement agencies, the courts and Chambers of Commerce. Our presentations have included a radio interview and an interactive television presentation at Northern Michigan Hospital. It seems we are getting noticed-people are calling us instead of us calling them. Thanks to all of our talented speakers.

DISTRICT COURT PROJECT:

We currently have mediators in Small Claims Court in Charlevoix on Tuesday, and in Petoskey on Wednesday. We can always use more District Court Mediators. If you are able to give one hour or so ((from 12:30-1:30) on one Tuesday or Wednesday a month, please let Kathy know. Small Claims Court is a good training ground for mediator skills.

STATISTICS

As of September 1, 1997
Year to date cases opened-83
Total Mediations-55 with 44 agreements reached
Conciliations (over the phone) 8

TRAINING NOTES:

In the spring, 4 new mediators completed the 40 hour volunteer mediator training program in a cooperative training effort with the Gaylord center. Our new mediators are: Lou Fantini, Petoskey; Gilbert Fox, East Jordan; Scott Foster, Petoskey; and Raymond Epskamp, Petoskey.

Kathy Lame and Pam Hagel completed the Training for Trainers program in Lansing in June. Pam completed her 40 hour training in Oakland County, She lives in Kewadin and has been working with us since April. Welcome, Pam!

KUDOS:

A very special thank you goes to Bill Shumaker who is retiring at the end of September. Bill has been with CDRS since the beginning. He also began the Victim

Offender Reconciliation Program 13 years ago in Charlevoix and Emmet counties. Anyone who has mediated with Bill, appreciates his calm demeanor and soft spoken style. Bill, it has been an honor to know and work with you - you will be missed!

FUNDING, FUNDING, FUNDING

In April, CDRS was awarded a grant from United Way in the amount of \$2000.00. We feel fortunate that as a first time applicant our request was granted. This money was earmarked for training and operating expenses.

In August, CDRS was awarded a grant from the "Strong Family-Safe Children" program in Charlevoix and Emmet county. The award will be used to purchase a computer for our new office. Many thanks to Holly Olson for assisting with the grant proposal.

ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calenders! CDRS annual meeting will be Thursday, November 6, 1997, at the Boyne City "Roast and Toast" restaurant. The featured speaker will be, Doug Van Epps, Director of the Community Dispute Resolution Program in Michigan. Watch for your invitation.