



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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INFORMATION SUMMIT



Case Manager Karen Cole

Northern Community Mediation participated in Information Summit on Friday, September 28. This event is an opportunity for the various non-profit, social service agencies to get together to network and share information about their organizations. The Honorable Valerie Snyder was the keynote speaker. Did you know that Probate Court as we know it today has its roots in the Orphans' Court in England. Judge Snyder also made the point that in a sense the courts are social service agencies.

CONNECTIONS

Connections is a quarterly publication of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) section of the Michigan Bar Association. One of the articles in the September issue was written by Executive Director Jane Millar. It focuses on the Child Protection Mediation Program. To read the article, go to <http://www.northernmediation.org/> on the NCM website. Under NCM Documents, scroll down to Connections.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a ‘C,’ the idea must be feasible.” A Yale University management professor in response to Fred Smith’s paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express Corporation.

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

George Mitchell is an American statesman. He was a U.S. Senator who was appointed by President Clinton to help broker peace in Northern Ireland. He became the architect of the Good Friday Agreement, signed in 1998, which ended decades of violent civil war between Catholics and Protestants.

Senator Mitchell will be lecturing this coming Sunday, October 7 at 7:00pm at the Great Lakes Center for Performing Arts. Tickets can be purchased by going to <https://www.greatlakescfa.org/events/events/>. What an opportunity for those of us who believe in the use of mediation as a means of resolving conflict, whether that conflict is between neighbors or nations.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES TRAINING

Recent legislation has ordered that all school districts must implement a Restorative Practices (RP) Program in their schools. The goal of this initiative is to approach students with a proactive, restorative approach rather than a reactive, punitive one. This is right in line with the pilot project involving Pellston High School and Boyne City High School, which was a part of a grant from the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) and overseen by Western Michigan University.

In order to implement RP Programs, trainings are being offered to school personnel. Executive Director Jane Millar recently participated in one of those trainings for the purpose of understanding how the educational community was going to approach the initiative. The training took place over two days and was facilitated by Roy Burton. It was excellent.

SPEAKING OF TRAINING

The SCAO is offering a Child Protection Mediation (CDP) training on Thursday, November 15 and Friday, November 16 in Lansing. Participants are required to attend both days. If you are interested in this training, go to <http://www.northernmediation.org/workshops-training/> on the NCM website. Although CDP can be emotionally draining, it is also one of the most rewarding types of mediation.

USELESS FACT

Humans actually have nine senses. Besides hearing, sight, smell, taste, and touch, there are also equilibrioception (balance), nociception (pain), proprioception and kinaesthesia (joint motion and acceleration).