



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

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and Emmet Counties

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Dr. Jane Millar

DATE

NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE ZIP

DEAR

For his Eagle Scout project, Scott renovated the community nature trail, which had been neglected for over five years. He even built a series of bird houses that were placed along the trail. The citizens of this small town were delighted with the results.

Unfortunately, only three weeks after completion of the project, two middle school students vandalized the nature trail and smashed all of the bird houses. Fortunately, the two vandals were caught. The case was referred to Northern Community Mediation's Victim Offender Reconciliation Program for the purpose of establishing restitution.

Although Scott was furious at the offenders and originally did not want anything to do with them, he eventually decided to participate in mediation. Also at the table were the two offenders and their parents, the police chief, the school superintendent, the mayor, and Scott's father.

During mediation, Scott listened to the parties describe the impact of the vandalism upon the community and themselves. He listened to the offenders try to explain why they did what they did. And, then, with the wisdom of a mature adult, Scott proposed the following:

- The two offenders and their fathers, along with Scott and his father, would restore the nature trail and re-build the bird houses.
- The two offenders would go to at least 10 Boy Scout meetings.

That was three years ago. The above stipulations of the agreement were met. Additionally, the two middle-school offenders are active members of the Boy Scout Troop. Their grades in school have improved, as have their attitudes.

This is what can happen through mediation. This is the power of mediation.

Please, consider a generous donation to Northern Community Mediation so that we can continue to impact community members in a positive, significant way.

Sincerely,

Jane Millar, Ed.D.  
Executive Director

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