



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

December 16, 2009

For more information contact Jane Millar at 231.487.1771

Annual Awards

At its holiday party on December 15, Northern Community Mediation (NCM) presented its annual awards. The 2009 recipients of those awards are pictured from left to right.

Wayne Tri was the Rookie Mediator of the Year. This award recognizes an individual who has been mediating for NCM less than two years and demonstrates excellent mediation skills, shows enthusiasm for the process, is readily available when called upon to mediate, and conducts himself/herself in a professional manner.

Susan Capaldi received the Advocate of the Year Award. This award is unique because it recognizes someone who is not necessarily affiliated with NCM, but whose actions have a significant impact upon the organization. Susan has done so by serving as a surrogate victim for the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP). When a young person is found guilty of a crime, the court orders the case to mediation so that the victim of the crime can meet with the youthful offender. By doing so, the offender learns to take on responsibility for his/her actions and understand the impact of those actions. In return, the victim has the opportunity to express the impact the offense has had upon him/her. There are times, however, when the victim is not willing to "come to the table." In those cases, a surrogate victim is used. Susan, who works for McLean & Eiken, has served in that capacity for shoplifting cases.

The third award went to Polly Cheney for Veteran Mediator of the Year. This award is similar to the Rookie of the Year Award, the difference being that the Veteran Mediator of the Year Award goes to an individual who has been mediating for more than two years.

Recognition was also given to outgoing board members: Steve Tresidder as president, Bill Lovett as vice-president and past secretary, and Ray Kiogima, member at large.

Northern Community Mediation is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative means of resolving conflict. Trained mediators, who meet with the parties involved in a dispute, facilitate so that the individuals themselves can resolve the conflict.

Anyone interested in learning more about Northern Community Mediation should contact Dr. Jane Millar at 231.487.1771.



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