



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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PETOSKEY CHAMBER EXPO



Executive Director Jane Millar, Board Secretary Stuart Fenton, Community Member Dick Smith

Northern Community Mediation believes that being an integral part of the greater community is imperative. Not only does it help to create awareness of the services offered by NCM, but it also lets the community know that NCM is a team player and does not function in isolation. This rationale is the driving force behind the fact that NCM belongs to all of the chambers in Charlevoix and Emmet counties: Boyne City Chamber, Charlevoix Chamber, East Jordan Chamber, Harbor Springs Chamber and Petoskey Chamber. Additionally, NCM is always a participant in the Chamber Expos.

On Thursday, April 18, the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce held its annual Expo, and NCM was there with a booth. Case Managers Karen Cole and Caroline Smith along with Executive Director Jane Millar talked with people, explained the services offered by NCM, and handed out freebies: NCM post-it-notes, NCM refrigerator magnets, special education pens, as well as brochures that highlight the various programs

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

With age comes wisdom. Apparently, wisdom weighs about 30 pounds. ~ Anonymous

USELESS FACT

The next time you are wearing a pair of jeans, take a look at the pockets. Do you see those little metal studs at the corners? They're not just there to add some extra pizzazz to your pants; they actually have a purpose. Rivets, as they're called by Levi Strauss, are placed on certain spots to add extra support where the denim is more likely to wear out and rip.

APPRECIATION GALA

Northern Community Mediation realizes that without its mediators, without its board, without its supporters, there would be no Northern Community Mediation. It would cease to exist. For this reason, NCM has always held an annual appreciation event. In the past, this has generally been a luncheon. This year, however, NCM is trying something new. Rather than a luncheon, NCM will host an Appreciation Gala from 5:00pm to 6:30pm on Tuesday, May 21 in the Resort Room at Stafford's Perry Hotel. Hors d' Oeuvres and a complimentary glass of wine or beer will be served. At 6:45pm, there will be some special recognitions made. If you are able to come, please, call NCM at 231.487.1771.

FORTY-HOUR TRAINING

If you are interested in taking the forty-hour training, you should register as soon as possible because the class is close to being full. The schedule is as follows:

- Wednesday, May 29 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Thursday, May 30 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday, May 31 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Wednesday, June 5 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Thursday, June 6 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday, June 7 8:00am – 5:00pm

The training will take place in the Resort Room at Stafford's Perry Hotel in Petoskey. For further information and the registration form, go to <http://www.northernmediation.org/workshops-trainings/> on the NCM website.

TWO REPORTS

Between October 2016 and June 2018, Northern Community Mediation was involved in two, state-wide studies: Child Protection Mediation(CDP) and Restorative Practices (RP). The results of those two studies are now posted at <http://www.northernmediation.org/reports/> on the NCM website. In both cases, the results demonstrate the value of these programs. By using mediation rather than the traditional court process, CDP cases resulted in a time and cost savings to the courts, improvement in relationships between parents and government agencies, a shorter time span to permanency, and higher parental compliance. RP cases resulted in a decrease in suspension days, fewer absences, less tardiness, and a decrease in the need for disciplinary action. Additionally, when the infraction involved an agreement between the students and the school, in 89% of the cases the students upheld the agreements that they had made.