Northern Community Mediation
Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES
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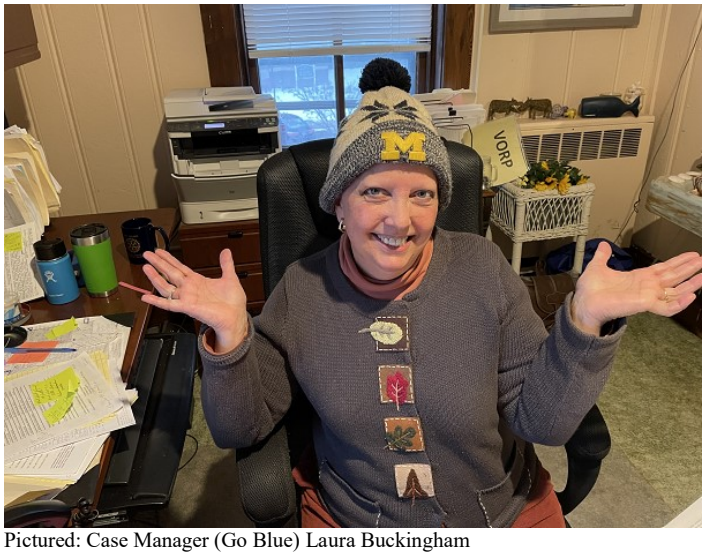
A REAL TROOPER



Pictured: Case Manager (Go Blue) Laura Buckingham

In case you are not aware, Case Manager Laura Buckingham was diagnosed with breast cancer this past May. Since then, she has undergone chemotherapy, had reconstructive surgery and is about to begin radiation treatments. Throughout her entire ordeal. Laura has exhibited an exemplary positive attitude.

STAFF RETREAT

Just a reminder that the Northern Community Mediation office will be closed this Friday, December 9 for the staff retreat. Normally, we have the staff retreat in November, but this year we are running a little behind. One of the agenda items is to develop the 2023 NCM calendar of events. We will share this with you the week of December 12 so that you can plan accordingly. Some of the dates that may be of interest to you are the holiday party, Loco Locals fundraiser, 40-hour training, etc.

COLLABORATION

For years, the Citizen Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) center directors have talked about restructuring the40-hour training into a Basic Mediation Skills concept. This would certify mediators for basic cases. Then, in order to mediate cases, such as divorce/domestic or general civil, there would be specialized training. In order to take these trainings, everyone would have to have taken the Basic Mediation Skills training. This is finally going to come to fruition. The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Section of the Michigan Bar Association and the Michigan Community Mediation Association (MCMA) are partnering to make all of this happen. Zena Zumeta from the ADR Section and Jane Millar from the MCMA will be co-chairing this endeavor. Feel free to contact Jane if you have suggestions and/or recommendations.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Absolutely a must attend event. NCM will host its annual holiday party from 5:00pm to 6:30pm on Tuesday, December 13. You will be treated to a yummy array of appetizers from Parkside Delia along with some adult spirits. Most importantly, you will have fun wishing mediators, board members, staff and others who support mediation a very happy holiday season.

GREAT IDEAS

Board member and mediator Bill Cattin forwarded one of NCM's Giving Tuesday Facebook and Instagram posts with his aunt. Guess what? His aunt made a donation to Northern Community Mediation. Thank you Bill, and thank you Bill Cattin's aunt.

Another suggestion coming from Bill and the Funding committee: Check to see if the company that you work for donates matching funds when you contribute to a non-profit.

MEDIATOR ROUND TABLE

From 4:00pm to 5:00pm on Tuesday, January 17, there will be a Mediator Roundtable. This Round Table is for those mediators who are already tech mediators but would like a review or have some questions, as well as for those mediators who are not yet tech mediators but are interested in becoming tech mediators. Both DocuSign and the use of Zoom will be covered. The ink for the Round Table is https://miscaosc.zoom.us/j/94272791791?pwd=aExxbUhVUXhPRDdUYXVoNUpOdHI0dz09

CONGRATULATIONS

Attorney Katie Mott has accepted a positon with the law firm Kilpatrick, DuBois & Slough in Gaylord. Lucky for us, she will continue to be one of our mediators.

FOLLOW-UP

Grandmother of Kirstyn Horan (incoming board president, mediator and previous NCM case manager) Mary Horan posthumously received the Leah Award for 2021. Her body was donated to science. Kirstyn recently learned that Mary's body was being used to teach physical therapists at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Her body will be teaching student until August 2023. Mary would have been proud to be part of this educational opportunity.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

This is not the year to get everything you want. This is the year to appreciate everything that you have. ~ Anonymous