Northern Community Mediation
Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties
`

BRIDGES
February 2022
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A RIGHT TO BE PROUD

Pictured left to right: Matt Hamilton, Jordan Valentine, Zeke Richey, Nicholas Bascom, Alex Rodgers, Aiden Kolp

East Jordan High School students in Matt Hamilton's class worked with Northern Community Mediation to develop three videos that will be posted on NCM's Facebook and Instagram pages. On Tuesday, February 8 the project will be introduced through NCM's social media pages, and then the three videos will be posted.

- Thursday, February 10 will feature their video on shoplifting.
- Thursday, February 17 will focus on their bullying video.
- Thursday, February 24 will highlight their video on school attendance.

This is definitely a job well done. Kudos to Jordan, Zeke, Nicholas, Alex and Aiden.

ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

Lisa Hoyt, who is the Membership Director of the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce, is celebrating 15 years with the organization. Although Lisa is a new member of Northern Community Mediation's Board of Directors, she actually served previously on the NCM Board from 2009 to 2014.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Avoiding conflict in the short-term builds resentment in the long-term." ` Anonymous

USELESS FACT

It seems that bats never turn right when they leave a cave. They seem to prefer the left way out. Who knows why?

ANNUAL MEETING

Northern Community Mediation held its Annual Meeting at noon on Thursday, January 20. In addition to the presentation of the annual report, outgoing Board members Bob Banner, Izabela Babinska and Nikki Devitt were recognized for their service, and incoming Board members Mark Andresky, Jenny Brower, Bill Cattin, Lisa Hoyt and Cyndy Tonkavich were introduced. The annual report is available at https://www.northernmediation.org/annual-reports/ on the NCM website.

MEDIATOR INFORMATON

At the Annual Meeting, mediator Connie Saltonstall expressed curiosity relating to the number of mediators with specialized training. The following is the result of her query. There are 57 mediators, 24 of whom are attorneys.

Parenting Time	3	MI-Resolve	4
Child Protection	13	Restorative Justice	4
Adv. General Civil	7	VORP	7
Divorce	16	Mental Health	5
Domestic Violence	16	Safety & Security	6
Guardianship	7	School Attendance	8
Behavioral Health	17		

Additionally, the total number of hours mediated in 2021 was 635.25, and the total number of hours attributed to brief and de-brief was 168. If any of you are interested in how many hours of mediation you did in 2021, just let me know, and I will send that information to you.

FOUR LINKS

1. Thank you Ken Winter for sharing the following website link as a resource for balanced news: https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news
2. Thank you Renee McDuffee for North Central Michigan College's Lunch & Lecture series link featuring Judge Jennifer Deegan: https://ncmich.zoom.us/rec/play/y8vCYfKzmuVsRerfxtcPmWCkeG8Y47ELCQaRDGaPdK5WfLoczelOsOXTkiye4LKeaNxTm8sL5cFSIq99.I1V6sW1AULfLb-F_
3. Thank you Lee Hornberger for the link to his article explaining the Michigan Supreme Court ruling to enforce mediation confidentiality. https://www.leehornberger.com/files/Findling,%20OCLN%20%28Dec2021%29.pdf
4. Using Zoom to Conduct Online Mediation: https://www.courts.michigan.gov/siteassets/odr-temporary/documents/zoom-online-mediation-considerations-v1.pdf?404%253bhttps%25