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For more information contact Jane Millar at 231.487.1771

### Peace on Earth

From 2017 through 2019, Northern Community Mediation (NCM) placed two peace banners in the Charlevoix and Emmet County libraries on a rotating basis during the holidays. Because of COVID, the peace banners were not distributed in 2020 and 2021.

During a recent staff meeting, the staff was discussing the horror of the situation in Ukraine. A light bulb went on in the head of Case Manager Karen Cole. Why not make use of the peace banners now? With the exception of one caveat, it took only minutes for Case Manager Laura Buckingham and Executive Director Jane Millar to make the decision to go forward with the idea. Rotating the two banners among the libraries, however, did not make sense. Therefore, it was decided that NCM would bite the bullet and pay to have four more banners made so that the message of peace could be displayed at six of the local libraries continuously.

Within half-an-hour, the Marketing Committee headed by Jenny Brower and Lisa Hoyt were in complete support of the idea, and within an hour the four additional banners were ordered and available for pick-up the next day. When contacted, all six library directors were pleased to be able to display the banners. And, within two days, all six banners were in the six libraries: Boyne City, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Harbor Springs, Pellston and Petoskey.

NCM asks that you take the time to go to your library, look at the peace banner and reflect upon what is happening in our world, specifically Ukraine.

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.

Pictured in the Charlevoix Library is Library Director Ryan Deery

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