

HO! HO! HO!



The Northern Community Mediation staff definitely got into the spirit of the holiday season. Case managers Kurt Grangood and Laura Buckingham did a great job of decorating the tree.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

When I was in third grade, I came home from school one day and declared that I wanted to be Jewish. “Why?” my mother asked. “Because they have this thing called Hanukkah and for eight nights you get presents every night.”

That same day my friend Rebecca told her mother that she wanted to be a Christian. “Why?” her mother queried. “Because they have Sammy Claus,” was Rebecca’s reply.

That year I celebrated Hanukkah with Rebecca’s family, and she celebrated Christmas with my family and me. It was not until I was in junior high school that I became aware of the fact that people of different religions often could not get along with one another.

I miss that naïve, innocent little third grader.

HAPPY HANUKKAH



ADVANCED MEDIATOR TRAINING

We still hope to offer a session on the Federal Court System. Hopefully, we will be able to do so within the first quarter of 2024. Additionally, we have scheduled a Mediator Round Table via Zoom for 4:00 on Thursday, March 7. The theme will be Tips & Tricks for Mediators. Put your thinking caps on. What are some tips and tricks of the trade that you have learned over the years and would like to share with others?

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

A big thank you goes out to those of you who responded to the NCM *How Considerate are We?* Survey. With the exception of two of the statements, we learned that our staff treats people with respect, is friendly, listens to suggestions, has a professional demeanor, and is helpful. We also learned that our new facility has a professional appearance, that our volunteers are proud to mediate for NCM, and that our mediators are content with the number of mediations that they are asked to do. We will be focusing, however, upon making our mediator notes easier to understand. Thank you so much for your input.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We have three outstanding individuals who will be joining the NCM Board of Directors. Denise Drake, who devoted her career to management and leadership development, is a mediator for NCM. Jason Guthrie manages his own executive search firm, and it is from Jason that NCM purchased its new “forever home.” Jody McLeod is an attorney who has expertise in employment law. All three have received their board orientation and are ready to begin their terms in January.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Power is the great aphrodisiac.” ~Henry Kissinger

INTERESTING USELESS FACT

Have you ever thought about where the term shuttle mediation comes from? Well, Henry Kissinger is the responsible party. He coined the phrase “shuttle diplomacy.”