

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



NCM is off to a great start in our Capital Campaign. As of 9:16am on Tuesday, July 30, we have raised \$30,780. Reaching our goal of \$200,000 is definitely doable, especially if everyone chips in to help, not just by giving—although that certainly is helpful—but also by encouraging your friends, relatives, neighbors or whomever to consider a contribution. If this approach is not your forte, share with us names of persons, companies or organizations that might be possible donors. We will make the contact.

The picture above tells the story of the importance of NCM's having purchased the office condominium. Board President Mitch Brown is holding the door for Lisa Hicklen and her husband. The hand you see pushing the wheelchair is that her husband Bill. Lisa used to be a mediator for NCM. After her stroke, she could not even come to the holiday party when we were renting the second floor of the old St. Francis monastery because there was no way to get her up the stairs. Our new facility has handicap accessibility, convenient parking, technological capacity and truly a professional appearance. Those qualities make a positive statement to all of our clients that we truly value them.

### THEATRE PARTY RETURNS

Tentatively, save the date of Monday, October 14 for the return of the Charlevoix Theatre Party. Details are being worked out as this newsletter is being written.

### A BIG THANK YOU

Thank you Dick Arlen for your generous donation of the big white board that is in our mediation room.

### USELESS-FACT

Have you ever taken the time to research what national holidays fall in each month? Here are some of the August holidays: National Girlfriend Day, National Watermelon Day, National Middle Child Day, National Filet Mignon Day, National Red Wine Day, and my favorite—National Lazy Day.

### FORTY-HOUR TRAINING

If you know of someone who is interested in becoming a mediator, share with them the fact that there are two opportunities in the fall. The first is through the Southeastern Dispute Resolution Services center and is being offered between October 22 and November 1. The second session is being sponsored by the Oakland Mediation Center in November. Both will be via Zoom. For the details and registration, go to <https://www.northernmediation.org/workshops-trainings/> on the NCM website. You can also access the information by going to “Events” in the menu and then dropping down to “Workshop and Trainings.”

### TRIBAL COURT WORKSHOP

Due to scheduling problems, we had to postpone the Tribal Court Workshop. Although the specific date has not yet been determined, it will be in October or November. As soon as we know the details, you will be notified. This is a workshop that you will not want to miss.

### FRIEND OF THE COURT

Just a reminder that when you are mediating a case that has been referred or ordered by Friend of the Court, child support is off limits. The reason for this is that the state has a formula that has to be followed. In other words, it is non-negotiable. Also, if an agreement is reached, draw the participants' attention to the statement that is just above where they are to sign: “IF AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED, THAT AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE COURT, UNLESS THE PARTIES HAVE OPTED OUT OF FRIEND OF THE COURT.”

### CONDOLANCES

Sympathy thoughts are with board member Phil Harmon on the death of his mother-in-law earlier this summer.

### YOUR THOUGHTS

It has been suggested that we list the names of our mediators on our website. Would you include a picture? What about a brief (three to four sentences) bio? If we were to do that, would you participate or prefer that you not be included?

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Overall, August is a month filled with possibility and potential. While it can be bittersweet to say goodbye to summer, it's also a time to reflect on the past and set intentions for the future. ~ Anonymous