



**annual report
2019-20**

*Conflict Happens
and Mediation
Can Help!!*



Dear Supporters of CDRC,

If there was ever a year when the Community Dispute Resolution Center was more important, I don't know when that year would have been.

2020...

Where would you even start? Cooped up in our homes for months on end. Isolated from friends and family seemingly forever. An endless barrage of political maneuvering that still won't stop.

It was a ripe year for CDRC to be at its best. And that is just what our staff and volunteers have done. When the offices in Schuyler, Tompkins and Chemung Counties closed early in this pandemic's year we didn't know how it all might work. How could mediations continue if we couldn't meet in person? How could the court system work if there were no sessions in person? The questions seemed endless and the solutions unknown.

Then the inevitable happened. New York State delayed financial support across the board so that it could respond to the medical emergency that was developing across the state.

Two uncertainties emerged: 1) how to conduct mediations now; and 2) how to afford to keep going.

CDRC did them both. Staff began working remotely from home. Zoom meetings became the norm and our Zoom proficiency increased. Mediators were trained to mediate on Zoom and parties could mediate again. And, our Executive Director, Paula, staff, and the Board figured out how to bridge the financial gap that New York State had created.

And here we are at the end of 2020. CDRC is as strong as ever. The Board is 100% committed to the agency and has pledged their financial support. Parties are coming to the mediation table and mediators are mediating across our three counties.

What a year. Thank you for your part in supporting what CDRC does to make our communities better places to live and work, and better for the many persons and families that we serve.

Michael Hartney

President, CDRC Board of Directors

CHEMUNG COUNTY
215 East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901
Tel. 607.734.9087
Fax 607.735.9828

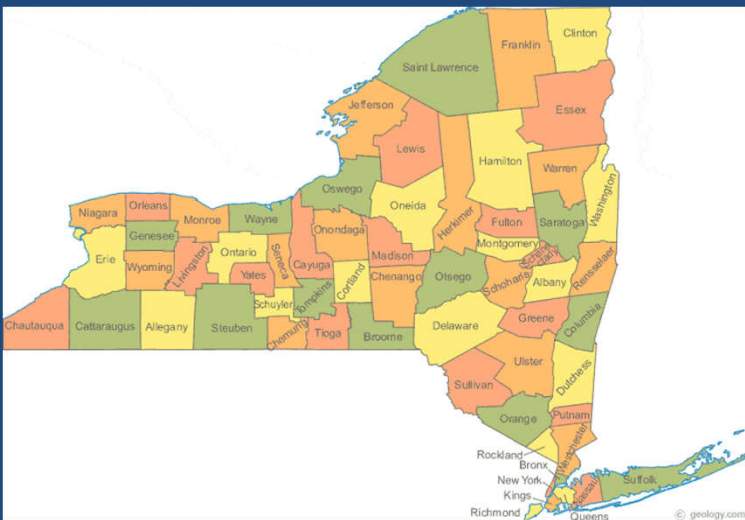
SCHUYLER COUNTY
105 9th St. Unit15
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
Tel. 607.535.6860
Fax 607.735.9828

TOMPKINS COUNTY
171 East MLK, Jr./State Street
Center Ithaca Box 111
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel. 607.273.9347
Fax 607-735-9828

Did You Know...



1. That our local CDRC is part of a statewide network of mediation centers?
2. And that every community member throughout New York has access to resolve their disputes at a center that serves their county?
3. And that these unique programs and services have been offered since 1981?
4. In this years' annual report we would like to recognize the 40th Anniversary of CDRC's statewide



CDRCS

- Services available in all 62 NY Counties.
- Services currently provided by 20 nonprofit community partners who have contracts with NYS UCS and follow regulations developed by NYS UCS.

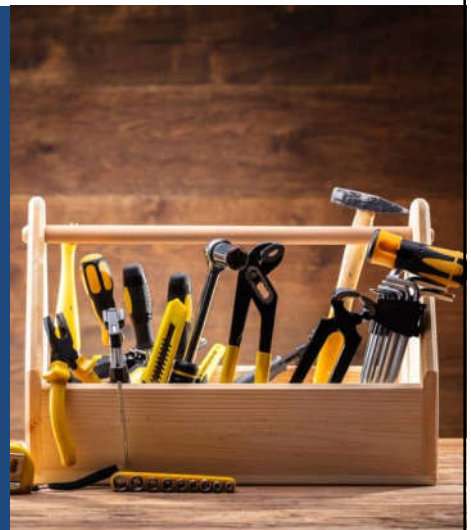
CDRC ORIGINS

- In 1981 Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke established the CDRCs in 1981 for two reasons:
 - Help address the backlog of civil and minor criminal cases
 - Prevent cases from reaching the courts in the first place by promoting resolution of conflicts at the earliest time, before they escalate into more serious matters.
- Article 21A of the Judiciary Law, CDRC contracts, and CDRC Program Manual provide regulation and policy governing CDRCs.



CDRC PROCESS TOOLBOX

- Mediation
- Restorative Circles
- Conflict Coaching
- Training



REFERRAL SOURCES

Half of all CDRC Cases come from Courts . . .

- City Courts
- Family Courts
- Town and Village Courts
- Supreme and Surrogates Courts



Half of all CDRC Cases come from the Community. . .

- Self- Referrals
- Local DSS
- County Agency
- Schools
- Law Enforcement

FAMILY MATTERS

- Custody and Visitation
 - Original Petitions
 - Modifications
 - Violations
- Child Support
- Divorce
- Interpersonal disputes with family members
- PINS and Parent-Child



BENEFITS OF MEDIATING FAMILY MATTERS: CLIENT PERSPECTIVE

- Research has shown that parent utilizing a mediator who practiced according to standards consistent with New York's Community Dispute Resolution Centers reported six month later that they were more likely to be able to:
 - work together
 - prioritize their children's needs
 - consider the other parent's perspective
 - have an improved relationship and attitude toward each other
- Nonresidential parents are **THREE** times as likely to see their children weekly and **FOUR** times as likely to talk with their children weekly.
- Mediated cases are resolved faster and fewer modifications claiming noncompliance with agreement/order are filed



HOUSING-RELATED DISPUTES

- **Landlord-Tenant Issues:**
 - Evictions
 - Repairs
 - rent arrears
 - Harassment
- Neighbor and Roommate Disputes



Thanks to your support we have been able to continue to offer these services virtually during the unique challenges of 2020.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THANKING...

DONORS SUPPORTING CDRC'S MISSION, 2019-20

Jacqueline Acome
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Cole Saunders
Dennis Scheck
Raymond Schlather
Karen Shepard
Temple Beth El-Rabbi Spitzer Fund
Margaret Walbridge
Charles Wolcott
Joel & Cathy Zumoff

Please join us in thanking...

CDRC MEDIATORS

Mediators with CDRC for 30+ years

Kirby Edmonds
Judy Saul
Laura Branca
Peggy Walbridge

Mediators with CDRC for 20+ years

Dorothy Caldwell
Leslyn McBean-Clairborne
Ray Gozzi
Satomi Hill

Mediators with CDRC for 15+ years

Sandy Rhodes

Mediator with CDRC for 10+ years

Judy Burrill
Sherron Brown
Troy Council
David Kay
Ann Martin
Brian Williams

Mediators with CDRC for 5+ years

Tammy Brown
Cindy Emmer
LJ Freitag
Michael Hartney
Emily Karr-Cook
Jane Murphy
Mary Newhart
Sidney Whitfield

Mediators with CDRC for 5 years or less

LeGrace Benson
Timothy Blandford
Richard Biesanz
Sherry Colb
Daniel Clay
Vincent Ciampolillo
Lydia Dempsey
Linda Falkson
Sue-Je Gage
Charles Lyles
Walt Nowakowski
Michael Nyre
Maira Osorio
Kim Pesenti
Kristin Schamel
Diane Withiam

Lemon Law Arbitrators

Daniel Clay
L. J. Freitag
Cynthia Lion
Kristin Schamel
David Stotz

We miss you!

This year CDRC lost three volunteer mediators who were all very active community members. Kirby Edmonds, Satomi Hill and Sue-Je Gage.

Sue-Je was a mediator with us for six years. She had taken the Coaches' Training last year and had just started working with 2 of our apprentices. We will remember Sue-Je for her sweet spirit, and thoughtful questions.

Kirby was a board member, volunteer mediator, trainer and coach. He will be remembered for his quiet demeanor and uplifting spirit. He was also a strong supporter of peace in our community.

Satomi was a volunteer mediator with CDRC for 24 years. She also volunteered on the CDRC board of directors for 6 years. Satomi volunteered to help answer phones after our drastic staffing cut in 2011. We will remember the sense of peace and calmness that Satomi brought to the room whenever co-mediating with her.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THANKING THESE ORGANIZATIONS...

CDRC wishes to express our deepest appreciation to organizations who provided funding through Grants and Service Fees.

AIM

ARC of Steuben County

Cayuga Landscape

City of Ithaca

Dryden Town Board

Ithaca Catholic Workers

Ithaca College Gerontology Institute

Kappa Delta Sorority

Lansing Central Schools

New York State Agricultural Mediation Program

New York State Dispute Resolution Association

New York State Unified Court System

Tompkins County

Tompkins County Human Rights Commission

Town of Lansing

Triangle Fund

United Way of Schuyler County

United Way of the Southern Tier

United Way of Tompkins County

2019-2020 Finances

PLEASE NOTE:
Review is not yet
complete.
Please check back
frequently for the
updated finances)

INCOME

Contributions, Grants, Gifts	10,834
NY State Unified Court System	281,516
Case Fees	8,620
United Ways*	25,472
Tompkins County	39,875
Training Income	12,192
Other	375

**Chemung, Schuyler and Tompkins Counties*

EXPENSES

Program Services*	330,471
Administration	46,654
Development	11,665

**Mediation, Facilitation and Training*

www.cdrc.org

www.cdrc.org

Were you one of the over 1050 visitors who viewed our web-page this past year? If you haven't had a chance yet, please check it out.



Facebook

Were you one of the over 1440 visitors who viewed our posts on our Facebook Page? If so, thanks for viewing. If not, please visit our page, like us and check out our posts. <https://facebook.com/CDRCtalkworks>

Amazon

Help make a difference. Shop AmazonSmile Charity Lists at smile.amazon.com/gp/ch/list/22-3093783 to support our mission.

amazon smile



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Michael Hartney, President
Leisa Alger, Vice President
Kathryn Russell, Treasurer
Libby Demarest, Secretary
Rebecca Bonsignore
Matthew Burr
Emily Karr-Cook
Katrina Nobles
Michael Nyre
Margaret O'Neal
Connie Park

CDRC STAFF

Paula Wright, Executive Director
Rita Boratav, Case Coordinator
Andrea Brink, Schuyler County Family Court Petition
Intake Assistant
Tina Hager, Case Coordinator/Office Manager
Franci Saunders, Director of CDRC Programs
Savannah Thomas, Youth Services Coordinator
Gina Tinker-Williams, Volunteer Coordinator
Melissa Hollister, WebSite Manager Volunteer

