

MCS NEWSLETTER

Mediation & Conflict Solutions



Training, Training, Training

30 hour remote civil mediation training is scheduled Wednesday May 31st, Friday, June 2nd, Monday, June 5th, Wednesday, June 7th, Friday, June 9th, Monday, June 12th and Wednesday, June 14th from 12-4 each day. Please let family and friends know about this training opportunity. Scholarships are available. Space is limited, so register early.

40 hour remote family mediation training is scheduled Thursday, October 5th, Friday, October 6th, Saturday, October 7th, Thursday, October 12th and Friday October 13th from 8am – 5pm. Please let family and friends know about this training opportunity. Scholarships are available. Space is limited, so register early.

Join us for a Taste of Mediation Session at noon, Thursday, March 23, 2023. This session provides potential volunteers the opportunity to learn about Mediation & Conflict Solutions and the volunteer commitment involved, prior to the above referenced classes. Please share this zoom link with anyone who may be interested:

<https://communitymediationmn.zoom.us/j/.85977433508>

Remember that Volunteer mediators are required to complete 18 hours of continuing education units within a three year period. While MCS is committed to providing at least six units of free training each year, if you complete mediation related trainings elsewhere, please let the executive director know. A certificate of completion or a short summary of the training needs to be submitted. Continuing education credits will be offered for the above mentioned 30 and 40 hour classes. More information will follow as registration becomes available.





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2022 MCS Mediation Statistics

- MCS completed 50 remote mediations, 30 ended with signed settlement agreements, 45 dealt with family issues, three were landlord/renter cases and two were business cases.
- 122 cases were opened in 2022.
- Clients were from 25 Minnesota counties and 7 were from outside of Minnesota.
- MCS's largest referral source is the MCS website, followed by referrals from Community Mediation Minnesota and a close third is former clients requesting additional mediations.
- In 2022, the average fee paid by a client was less than \$15.00, however, most paid nothing for their mediation services.
- 98% of clients who completed the end of mediation poll thought the mediation was beneficial, 96% would consider using mediation again and 96% would encourage others to use mediation.

New Rule 114

After more than ten years of debate, a new Rule 114 went into effect January 1, 2023. The rule included new Agreement to Mediate and Settlement Agreement requirements. With the help of Margaret Gowan Mester and Sue Krecke, (thank you!) we worked to abide by the new rule requirements and to make the new Agreement to Mediate more readable. In conjunction with a new suggested opening script for volunteers which includes important elements of the beginning of the mediation (ground rules, explanation of separate sessions, time restraints, asking clients how they would like to be addressed, etc.) these two documents should eliminate unnecessary repetition. Please note that while the Agreement to Mediate will be screen shared at the beginning of the mediation, the suggested script needs to be available for mediators to reference or read.

Thank you

MCS held a fall volunteer appreciation event at Little Thistle Brewery. We intend to hold an appreciation event in 2023 as well. The dedication of our volunteers is truly appreciated year round and the board and I thank you for your commitment to the organization!

