### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We provide mediation as an early intervention method for resolving disputes, reducing violence and increasing the safety and well-being of Metro West residents.



# METROWEST MEDIATION SERVICES **ANNUAL REPORT FY2018**

# CUMMINGS 100K for 100

MetroWest Mediation Services was one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 each through Cummings Foundation's "\$100K for 100" program. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$220 million to Greater Boston nonprofits alone.

This grant will help MWMS expand mediation services in the Framingham Juvenile Court, where we offer youth and families an alternative to litigation, and it will help us grow our divorce mediation program to ensure that couples seeking a divorce have access to a non-adversarial process.



Executive Director Seth Izen and **Board Member** Andrea DeMayo Clancy "share the news" at the reception for the Cummings 100K for 100 grant.

I wanted to extend a sincere thank you to [your mediator] for successfully mediating a case which I was a little unsure would work out when I made the referral. She worked her usual magic in the mediation room, and the parties were able to reach an agreement on a case where no one would have benefited from a litigated hearing.

- Judge Gloria Tan, Associate Justice, Middlesex Juvenile Court

**ESTIMONIALS** 

# **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

This past year, we made great progress on our mission to provide quality mediation services to the entire community, including youth and families. Some key highlights include:

- We completed 250 mediations with a satisfaction rate of over 94% and an agreement rate of 64%.
- Our pilot program in Framingham Juvenile Court demonstrated the success of mediation in harassment order cases. The court has sought mediation for additional types of cases, including Care & Protection and Children Requiring Assistance cases.
- A new partnership with Framingham State University led to a series of three conflict resolution workshops for their students and staff, and a full mediation training for faculty/staff.

This success is only possible because of you - Our dedicated and passionate mediators, staff, board members and community supporters! Thank you for all that you do to bring peace to the community.

Seth Izen

Seth Izen, **Executive Director** 

#### **Testimonials from Parties:**

"The mediators had outstanding compassion, wisdom, respect and patience."

"The mediators did an excellent job defusing any tension between the parties and explained the process clearly."

"Very professional, patient and understanding as well as neutral. We met on multiple occasions and were satisfied with the entire process."

"One of the best experiences I've had in 20 years of [law] practice."



### VOLUNTEER MEDIATORS

Halee Burg Alan Carpenter Kara Dawson Andrea DeMayo-Clancy Dan Desautels Robin DiGiammarino Denise Earl Imogene Fish Tod Foote Carolan Gozzi Don Greenstein **Esther Gruber** Mark Kaplan Joseph Keefe David Kelly Justin Kelsey Liz Lassen

Gerry Mazor Melinda Milberg Ann Murphy **Christine Navez** Susan Ostberg Julian Puma Phil Reimann Peter Robinson Steve Seeche MaryAnn Sherwood Nancy Simons Robert H. Smith Jason Sobol Harvey Taylor Lisa Vendetti Jane Walsh Michael Zeytoonian

**STAFF** 

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### Seth Izen, Executive Director

Deepika Madan, Court Coordinator & Training Manager

Daniele Natali Goldberg, Court Coordinator & Project Manager

Robert H. Smith, Esq President Carl Solomont, Esq Vice President Charles Murphy, CPA Treasurer Melinda Milberg, Esq Secretary

BOARD

Peter J. Altieri, SPHR Alan J. Finkel, Esq Andrea DeMayo-Clancy Kristine Van Amsterdam

600 Concord St. Framingham, MA 01702 | 508-872-9495 | www.metrowestmediationservices.org



### YEAR IN REVIEW (July '17 – June '18)



#### **Continuing Education Presentation** on Mediating for FEMA led by Don Greenstein

#### **Dialogue Forum** on Community – Police Relations

Workshop for Divorce Mediators on New Child Support Guidelines



**Presentation on Conflict Resolution Skills** to Alumni of Leadership MetroWest

### **COURT MEDIATION**

Serving Concord, Framingham, Marlborough, Natick District Courts & Framingham Juvenile Court. Cases include Small Claims, Summary Process, Harassment Prevention, Civil, Children Requiring Assistance and Care & Protection.

94%	33
Party Satisfaction	Volunteer Mediators
243	64%
Court Mediations	Agreement Rate
\$259,936	95%
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**\$259,936** Returned to Consumers **95%** Agreement Rate in Juvenile Harassment

# **COMMUNITY MEDIATION**

Only program in MetroWest with a Sliding Fee Scale to ensure mediation is accessible for the entire community and only provider of DOR Parent Mediation Program.

> **34** Family and Divorce Cases

6 MassHousing Mediations

### TRAINING

Providing mediation and conflict resolution training to organizations, community members, and businesses in the MetroWest.

**21** Mediators Trained

**2** Enrolled in Practicum

**3** Conflict Resolution Workshops Offered **6** Hours of Continuing Education for Mediators

# **EDUCATION**

Informing the community about productive alternatives to litigation

**46** Outreach Activities and Events -**3,000+** People Educated about Mediation



**35-Hour Mediation Training** for 9 Community Members



35-Hour Mediation Training for 12 Framingham State University Administrators



Conflict Resolution Workshops for Framingham State Students and Faculty

Advocacy Day at the State House

(Rep. Carolyn Dykema, 3<sup>rd</sup> from L)



Juvenile Harassment Mediation Training for MWMS and CDSC Mediators



Celebration of Mediation and Annual Meeting with Judge Gloria Tan, Associate Justice, Middlesex Juvenile Court Celebration of Retiring Mediators and the Cummings Foundation Grant

### **FUNDERS**

- Mass. Office of Public Collaboration
- Office of the Attorney General
- Middlesex Savings Bank
- Massachusetts Bar Foundation
- Foundation for MetroWest
- John Alden Trust
- Framingham and Natick Rotary Clubs
- Avidia Bank
- Individual Contributors to Appeal

### **REVENUE: \$148,258**



