

Community Engagement* Update – August 2024

*Fundraising / Marketing & Communication / Outreach / Training Promotion & Support

What We're Celebrating

- Events and publicity regarding the Executive Director transition from Jody to Elizabeth, including a special Board reunion gathering, email blasts, media stories and social media posts.
- A well-attended Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on July 31st and presentation of the 2024 Outstanding Volunteer Award to Kacia Bernier and Marieke McGovern. Thank You to everyone who contributed time, food and gift cards to help make this event a success.
- Networking opportunities with business leaders and elected officials through the Thurston County Chamber's 150 Anniversary Celebration and the Thurston Economic Development Council's annual "Hootenanny".



Kacia Bernier & Marieke McGovern, our 2024 Outstanding Volunteers, and members of our DRC Family who attended the picnic.

What's Happening Now

- Preparation and promotion for our **September 12th Open House**. Invitations to this connection event, and meet & greet opportunity for our new Executive Director, have gone out to elected officials, judges, community leaders, donors and volunteers.
- Our **2024 Community Impact Report**, carrying forward our 2024 theme, "Transforming Lives", and also helping introduce our new Executive Director, is set to launch right after Labor Day. Distribution includes hard-copy mailing of 2,300 copies to key audiences, including financial supporters, volunteers, elected officials, businesses, attorneys, schools, unions and fellow non-profit organizations, and digital distribution via email blasts and social media.
- Piloting **Resolution Washington's new animated volunteer recruitment videos** in our service area. A [2-minute version](#) was added to the DRC website and shorter 30-second versions are being shared through social media posts.
- **Updating and overhauling DRC publications**, including a new DRC Services Overview rack card, brochures for Mediation and Restorative Justice Dialogue, and rack cards for Family Mediation and Small Claims Court.

- **Communication & conflict resolution skills-related social media posts** during Community Conflict Resolution Month in October.
- Preparation for **key fall fundraising campaigns**:
 - Washington State Combined Fund Drive - Sept.-Oct.
 - Sustaining Monthly Giving Campaign – Oct. (tied to Conflict Resolution Month)
 - Planned Giving/”Leave 10” communication during Estate Planning Awareness Week – Oct. 21-27.
 - Community Foundation “Give Local” crowdfunding campaign – Nov. 9-22
 - Year-end appeal – Late Nov.-Dec.

What Support We Need

- Make plans to attend the September 12th Open House to connect with community leaders, financial supporters and volunteers.
- Share our new [volunteer recruitment video](#) and regular social media posts.
- Share communication about fall fundraising campaigns with friends, family, colleagues. Curt, Julie, Michael – please talk up the DRC and encourage support through the WA State Combined Fund Campaign to colleagues in your respective agencies.