



**Dispute Resolution Center
OF THURSTON COUNTY**

Capacity Building for Community Building

Investing in Enhanced Service, Access and Equity

Arising out of new needs and challenges faced in 2020, the Dispute Resolution Center is undertaking a process of re-envisioning how we will fulfill our mission and provide equitable access to our services in the years to come, including identifying the additional organizational capacity that will require.

Why it Matters

We have more work to do to advance the vision of a South Sound community that has and uses healthy and respectful conflict resolution skills.

This is a pivotal moment for the DRC, and for our community, state and nation. The COVID-19 public health crisis has necessitated significant re-tooling and re-training to enable the DRC to provide our core services in an online environment. We envision the increased use of technology and remote/virtual services to continue into the future - well beyond the eventual resolution of the current public health situation - as a key component of our core service provision.

As we mark the DRC's 30th anniversary, even more is being asked of us. New initiatives include:

- Restorative Justice Facilitated Dialogue - Pilot program with Thurston County Drug Court.
- Eviction Resolution Program - Facilitating dialogue and negotiation between tenants and landlords.
- Trust Network - Non-partisan resiliency network focused on violence prevention and conflict transformation.

The Goal

Investment in Enhanced Service, Access and Equity to address current and future needs.

- ✓ Ensuring that all members of our community can contribute to, participate in and benefit from the DRC's services, regardless of race, culture, gender, socio-economic status, first language, or access to technology.
- ✓ Enabling the DRC to respond to increasing and evolving community needs, as well as new opportunities, in the years to come.



The Investment

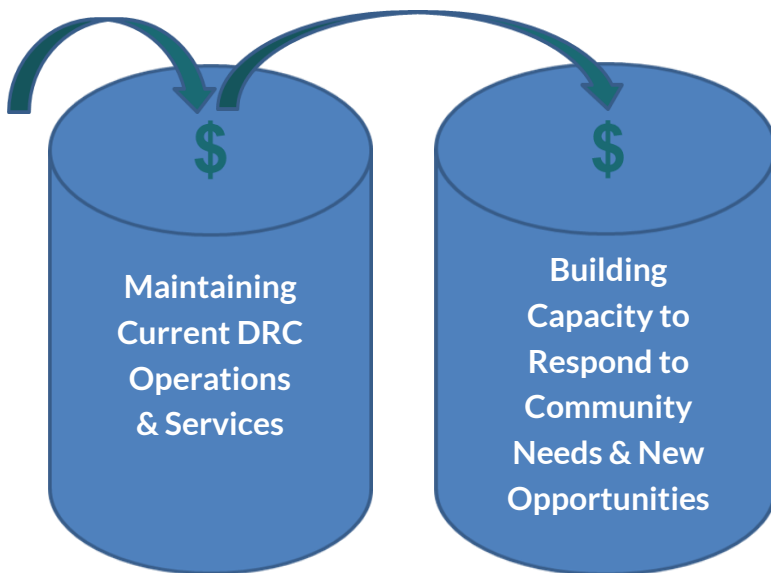
\$650,000, to be secured over the next three years from:

- State & local governments
- Foundations
- Tribal entities
- Businesses
- Individual donors

To be operationalized for sustainability and allocated towards:

- Hybrid of in-person and online services;
- Increased staffing to support increased demand for services;
- Greater technology access and resources for clients, staff and volunteers;
- Larger space for training, staff and volunteers; and
- Living more fully into our core values, with greater focus, practices and culture committed to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Addressing both current and future needs:



Technology

- Hardware for client, volunteer & staff use
- Hybrid Training Tools
- Information Systems

People

- Staff (including bilingual)
- Infrastructure Support
- Equity Commitments & Training

Facilities

- Increased Space for training, clients, staff & volunteers (short-term and long-term)
- Phone System Upgrade
- Furniture

Why Now?

Conflict resolution is essential to community healing and cohesion.

The DRC's community-building role is now more vital than ever. There will be even more need for our work in the months and years ahead – empowering our neighbors to repair relationships, resolve disagreements, and communicate with respect and civility. We will be prepared to meet that need, with your support.

Want to know more about how to support this effort?

Contact Joe Sanders, Capacity-Building Campaign & Community Engagement Manager

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