



Dispute Resolution Center OF THURSTON COUNTY

Get Involved!

The Dispute Resolution Center is home to a vibrant group of dedicated volunteers and staff who make possible mediation and conflict resolution in Thurston County. Volunteers are integral to our organization and we are committed to providing opportunities for you that fit your interest, skill levels, and time considerations.

Mediation

The DRC provides training to become a certified mediator, as well as continuing education to advance your skills. In addition to two-party mediations, volunteers may choose to work with Small Claims Court, or specialize in Family or Multi-Party mediations.

Contact us for information on upcoming mediation trainings.

Conflict Resolution Resource Line / Phone Conciliation

Do you enjoy coaching others to solve problems with neighbors, tenants, landlords, and co-workers? Would you like to help families prepare for mediation? Let us train you in the art of phone conciliation!

As a phone conciliator, you'll commit to a weekly, 2-4 hour shift where you'll talk with callers about conflicts and assess their needs. You'll help figure out next steps, facilitate negotiation, explain DRC services, and act as a neutral go-between. Conciliators also help with other tasks, as time and interest allow. Training is on-the-job in a supportive, congenial environment. Conciliators learn the language of neutrality and respect, and model effective communication skills for parties.

Board of Directors

Come play a key role in creating a more peaceful and civil community as a member of our Board of Directors. Members serve for a Three-Year Term (up to two consecutive terms), are asked to serve on one or more committees, including: Policies, Strategic Planning, and Recruitment and may also participate in a broad volunteer committee that supports community engagement. Board members contribute annually to an agreed upon, nominal amount to be put into a discretionary fund for the purpose of recognizing volunteers, staff and others as determined.

Board of Advisors

The Advisors offer guidance, as needed, regarding services, programs, and strategic direction consistent with the DRC mission, vision, and strategic plan. DRC seeks Advisors representing diverse segments of the Thurston and south Mason County community. Each member shall serve a minimum of a two-year term, with no limit on Advisory terms, serve as ambassadors and advocates for the organization in the South Puget Sound community and offer suggestions for community collaboration, financial support, and/or new Advisory members.

Administrative and Professional Skills

Do you have administrative or professional skills you'd like to share with us - e.g. fundraising, events planning, organizational development, or graphic design? Do you like assisting with daily office tasks, like data entry and mailings? We welcome all kinds of help with both special projects and day-to-day operations.

Internships

Interns assist with special projects, trainings, and events as appropriate. We accept intern applicants year-round and will work with you to develop an internship that meets your learning goals. Internships are between 8-20 hours per week and can be assigned for as little as one quarter or as long as an entire academic year.

Community Engagement Team

Are you interested in helping spread the word about the DRC in our community? If so, consider becoming part of our Community Engagement Team. We are seeking volunteers to help with distributing materials, staffing DRC displays, giving presentations and assisting with community events.

Youth Services

Help us nurture and mentor the next generation of peacemakers through our Youth Empowerment Services (YES!), partnering with area school districts and youth services agencies to provide training and to facilitate Peacemaker Clubs in local schools.

**For more information about volunteer needs and opportunities at the DRC,
contact Jesse Laird, Volunteer Manager, at jlaird@mediatethurston.org
or phone 360/956-1155.**