

Executive Director’s Report – June 15, 2023

<p>EXPANDING THE CIRCLE of neighbors helping neighbors, who are representative of the diversity of our community as a staff, board and volunteer base.</p>	<p>LEADING THE TRANSFORMATION to a variety of approaches for conflict resolution, prevention, and restorative practices within our community and systems.</p>	<p>BECOMING A PILLAR that is a known, trusted, and valued institutional support for our community.</p>
<p>Strengthen community partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An update to last report, I met with both of the City of Lacey and the City of Olympia city managers about contracting for voluntary rental housing mediation. They have the information they need to advance contracts once approved by their City Councils. 	<p>Expand community outreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Luis, Yul and a handful of volunteers have been representing the DRC at various community networking events lately – if you see an event where our presence would be an advantage, let us know! 	<p>Increase financial stability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ July will be the beginning of Luis’ new role – Business Relations Manager. This role will focus on connecting to local businesses for awareness of and connection to services, as well as a new corporate membership program as a means of generating ongoing business support revenue beyond sponsorships.
<p>Translate Equity Statement to action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To strengthen our practices of centering equity, our intention has been that all staff, board and volunteers are given the opportunity to participate in the Intercultural Foundations Intercultural Development Inventory. Based on specific concerns raised around how the process impacts people of color, we are reviewing how best to proceed. 	<p>Expand support for educators as well as youth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The OHS peer mediation club work will be continuing as Eloise hands the baton to Emmie. Other connections to other schools are coming in and we continue to seek funding dedicated to supporting this work. 	<p>Expand the organization’s infrastructure & organizational stability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A new keyless entry system is being installed in order to create ease of access for volunteers as we prepare for the return of in-person mediation services. This system is more secure than the prior lockbox system, which was a factor in the building burglary many months ago.
<p>Broaden client & volunteer accessibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Update on in-person services: staff are working on getting mediators up to speed on protocols and processes since many have either never mediated onsite or haven’t for 3 years. The first onsite training happens in July. 	<p>Expand access to justice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jody was recently invited to serve on the Washington State Bar Association’s Executive Committee, in the only role open to non-attorneys. Jody’s presence there will serve as an opportunity to strengthen the understanding of and connection to community mediation in the legal community, including our law schools. 	<p>Conduct education around fundraising, in alignment with strategic plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This month’s meeting includes a quarterly education component designed by Joe and Deborah around relationship building, which is an essential and early component of fund development. The offering comes from a recent NAWA conference that they were able to attend together.

