



The Center Letter

*Bringing People Together to Talk, Rebuild Relationships,
and Resolve Problems Creatively*

The Mediation Center of
the Pacific, Inc.

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The Magic of the Mediation Center



It starts out small... a subtle feeling that something great is about to happen. You apply to be a volunteer mediator... join the Board of Directors... observe a mediation demonstration... participate in a mediation training... conduct your first mediation session... That little feeling grows and swells into a sense of satisfaction and pride. At the Mediation Center, you know you're part of something special. You're magically inspired to do more.

You begin to mediate regularly and participate in different trainings. You serve on various committees and engage in fundraising efforts. You mentor new mediators and help to develop innovative programs. Excitement overtakes you. You're motivated to give countless hours of your time and energy. Magically, you invest more time than you would have ever imagined. The options are endless. The outcomes are amazing. You're caught in **The Magic of the Mediation Center**.

In a single year, nearly 5,000 individuals are assisted in preventing and resolving conflicts at the Mediation Center. These accomplishments do not happen by magic. It is through the dedication and commitment of the hundreds of volunteer mediators, Board Directors and funders who give tirelessly of their time and money year after year. What inspires them to do so much is the Magic... that special feeling that comes from being involved and knowing that thousands of people, particularly the underserved, have been helped to talk, rebuild relationships, and resolve their problems creatively.

The Magic is what inspires each of us to get involved, as well as the glue that keeps us involved. The Magic is a flame that energizes volunteer mediators and Board members alike to take time from their professional careers and their personal commitments to give so much. It's the reason why founding members like John Barkai, Bruce Barnes and David Chandler continue to mediate and remain involved 30 years later... why past staff such as Peter Adler, Linda Colburn and Dee Dee Letts still contribute their time as facilitators, trainers and Board Directors... why long-time mediators like Diana Chang, Diane Stowell, Marion Cornfield and Ken Goldblatt continue to volunteer as mediators 20 years later... and why professional mediators like President Michael Nauyokas, Past Presidents Charles Hurd and Bruce McEwan and Vice President Cynthia Alm invest thousands of dollars of their own money, as well as their time, to lead and sustain the work of the Mediation Center. The list is endless.

The Magic of the Mediation Center is what keeps community mediation alive. It is the energy, passion and belief that everyone can be empowered to work out their own problems creatively. Today, 43% of the Mediation Center's budget is supplied through in-kind contributions of people volunteering their time. Another 10% is raised through direct contributions and gifts. **The Magic of the Mediation Center** inspires this level of giving. One mediator explained it this way: "By being involved with the Mediation Center, I know I've done some good in the world."

Finally, in addition to doing good for others, our involvement with the Mediation Center directly enhances each of our personal lives, at home and at work. By integrating our mediator skills and experiences into our daily routines, we improve our own lives and make an ever bigger impact on the lives of others...

Mahalo for being part of the Magic!

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- In fiscal year 09-10, the Mediation Center managed 1,379 mediations

- 61% of the in-house mediations resulted in written agreements

- Approximately 80% of the clients involved in the in-house mediations were in the low-income population

- 4,094 people were assisted through the mediation & training programs

Mahalo for Your Contributions and Support

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Aloha United Way
Atherton Family Foundation
Bretzlaff Foundation
Combined Federal Campaign
Earl & Margery Chapman Foundation
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UNDER THE MEDIATION MOON

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\$6,000

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\$1,500

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30 Year Mediation Celebration A Success!

Thanks to the Mediation Center's many supporters and the leadership of **President Michael Nauyokas** and **Past President Charles Hurd** who set the stage with their purchase of the **\$6,000 Peacemaker Table**, the 3rd Annual ***Under the Mediation Moon: Celebrating 30 Years of Mediation in Hawai'i***, was a perfect evening.

The Great Lawn of La Pietra was transformed into a European-style marketplace by **Sutherland Events** and **ACCEL Party Rentals**. Honorees and guests mingled under charming umbrellas and transparent canopies decked with dazzling lights. Friendships were renewed amidst the sipping of fine wines supplied by **JMD Beverages** and **HASR Wine Company** and indulging in delicacies prepared by **Ginniberries**. The talented **Pierre Grill** entertained all with a variety of instruments and music ranging from Italian, Hawaiian, classic to contemporary.

It was an evening to remember with friends old and new... The founders of the Mediation Center... original mediators and staff... and the honorees who took mediation to new heights across the country and internationally. Together the guests and honorees represented the heart and soul of the Mediation Center. People who have helped to grow community mediation in Hawai'i from its grass roots beginning in the little shack in Makiki, to a critical resource for Hawaii's communities today.



The Magic Continues... Special Thanks & New Programs



Improving the Feng Shui at the Mediation Center...

A special mahalo to mediator **Doug Kaya** for donating the beautiful artwork that now grace the walls of the Mediation Center. The pictures are stunning and set the tone for child-centered divorces. We are grateful to Doug for his generosity and for helping the Mediation Center create a more comfortable, peaceful setting for clients and mediators alike!



Mahalo & Aloha...

Over the past month, the Mediation Center staff was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Rachael Shinno, an enthusiastic student attending Santa Clara University, who "jumped in" with a smile to assist with reception and administrative responsibilities for a few weeks while she was home for the summer.



Rachael's sharp mind and professional style made her a joy to work with. While her time with us was short, everyone agreed she helped tremendously while she was here. The staff appreciates her good work and bright smile and wish her the best of luck in what we know will be a very successful future!

Practice Tips: Paternity Mediation

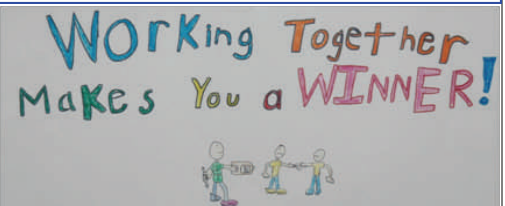
On July 22nd, the Mediation Center was fortunate to have Family Court Judge Linda Martell share her thoughts and expertise regarding the issues and challenges of mediating paternity matters. It was a full house with standing room only... 25 mediators, experienced and new, attended.



Judge Martell was insightful and humorous. Her overview of the paternity process and practice tips for mediators were invaluable. Everyone unanimously agreed that they learned a lot and would apply the ideas presented to their next mediation! A big mahalo to Judge Martell!

A Little Magic From the Sunshine Art Gallery... The Magic of the Mediation Center can impact anyone at any time. Last month, Executive Director Tracey Wiltgen, popped into the Sunshine Art Gallery in Kahalu`u to inquire about six posters from past Posters for Peace Contests that had been dropped off at the gallery for framing nearly two years prior. Thinking that the posters were probably long gone, Wiltgen was shocked when one of the gallery workers walked straight to the back of the gallery and pulled out six beautifully framed posters. When she expressed her surprise that they would still have the posters, the worker explained: "These are important works of art created by children. They send an important message; we would never toss them out. We knew someone would eventually come for them."

Thanks to the wonderful staff of the Sunshine Art Gallery and a little bit of magic, the posters are now safely hanging at the Mediation Center reinforcing the message that we all need to work it out peacefully....



Increasing Mediation at Court To assist with the growing backlog of cases at the Oahu District and Family Courts, the Mediation Center will soon be embarking on two new pilot projects. Both projects are designed to make mediation even more accessible by having mediators available on-site at court to address TRO matters at District Court and post divorce issues at Family Court. The Mediation Center is excited to be partnering with Family Law attorneys from the Volunteer Settlement Masters Program for the post divorce settlement mediation project. The Board of Directors and staff are grateful to all of the experienced mediators willing to volunteer for both projects and help more people access mediation to resolve their issues quickly.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITES

Basic Mediation Training **September 17 & 24, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. &** **September 18 & 25, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

This 24 hour training provides an introduction to a facilitative model of mediation including the core skills of effective listening, asking powerful questions, remaining impartial, interest identification, negotiation, agreement writing, ethical considerations and overcoming impasse. Basic Mediation is a prerequisite for all other mediation trainings. **COST: \$450**

Advanced Mediation Training **October 15 & 22, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. &** **October 16 & 23, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

This 24 hour training builds on core skills to provide additional tools of evaluation, negotiation, cultural diversity, multiple parties and managing challenges. **COST: \$450**

Mediator Ethics Workshop **September 9, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

This interactive workshop reviews ethical considerations and mediator responsibilities as defined in the Hawai'i Guidelines for Public & Private Mediators and the ABA Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators. **COST: \$20***

Child Support Agreement Writing Workshop **October 9, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

This interactive workshop conducted by attorneys Mei Nakamoto and Owen Tamamoto is a sequel to the Child Support Workshop held in August. Mediators will practice agreement writing in compliance with the new Child Support Guidelines effective August 29th. **COST: \$20***

*** Note:** Mediation Center mediators are required to complete 20 hours of continuing education per year. **Workshops are free for active Mediation Center mediators (defined in the Mediation Center's Policies & Protocol's Manual as someone who mediates at least 5 cases per year at the Mediation Center).** The cost for all other participants is \$20.

THE TRAINING FACULTY

The Mediation Center's training faculty is comprised of experienced mediators who mediate a broad variety of disputes including commercial, civil rights, divorce, family, special education and workplace. Their varied backgrounds as lawyers, professors and business consultants combined with their superior mediation and training skills, provide course participants with a wealth of information and professional experience.

Every time someone in Hawai'i resolves a problem peacefully, everyone in Hawai'i benefits.