

THE CENTER LETTER

Volume 14, Issue 1

January, 2020



THE MEDIATION CENTER OF THE PACIFIC

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A BIG MAHALO to all for your generous support in 2019! Thanks to everyone's generosity, hard work and commitment to MCP's mission, MCP's 40th year was one of many accomplishments and growth. In addition to strengthening current programs, MCP:

- Developed new partnerships to increase early referrals to mediation.
- Launched a new online mediation program.
- Managed 1,918 mediations and facilitations (a 12% increase) involving 7,187 people.
- Opened 1,766 new cases including 466 divorce cases and 272 custody matters.
- Mediated 1,259 cases with 50% resulting in written agreements.
- Conducted 96.5 hours of trainings and workshops for the mediators.
- Conducted 232 additional hours of trainings, workshops and presentations for businesses, agencies, schools, the Department of Labor, Honolulu Police Department, the John A. Burns School of Medicine and more.

We are grateful to everyone who helped us achieve these significant outcomes and made 2019 a stellar year. We are also excited to commence 2020 with more outstanding news: At the end of February, MCP will move into its new home, Hale O Pono, that it is purchasing at 1301 Young Street. Following a two-year search, MCP found the perfect permanent home.

The Board of Directors and staff are excited about this new chapter MCP is entering and we look forward to continued partnerships and working with everyone in MCP's new building. Together, we will do even more to address community needs by helping people talk and resolve conflict creatively. To learn more about MCP's new home, go to page 3.



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*Bringing people together to talk,
negotiate and
resolve conflict creatively.*

ANNUAL RECOGNITION & HOLIDAY GATHERING - CONGRATULATIONS!

Mahalo to everyone who joined us at MCP’s Annual Volunteer Recognition and Holiday Gathering on Friday, December 13th at Café Julia. The evening was a final celebration of MCP’s 40th anniversary, as well as an opportunity for the Board of Directors and staff to extend their gratitude to the mediators who invested thousands of hours mediating in 2019, and to honor outstanding volunteers and supporters. The honorees ranged from Mediator of the Year Denise George, District Court Mediator of the Year Ken Goldblatt, Mediator Ned Busch for consistently going above and beyond, and Captain Thomas Taflinger of the Honolulu Police Department, who received the Peacemaker Award. We are grateful to everyone who attended and helped to make it a special evening. Mahalo to all for your great work and support in 2019!



Sidney Ayabe & Ned Busch



Sidney Ayabe & Ken Goldblatt



Sidney Ayabe & Denise George



Sidney Ayabe & Captain Thomas Taflinger

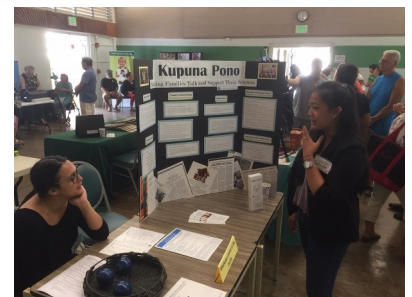
Awardees included:

Mediator of the Year	Denise George
District Court Mediator of the Year	Ken Goldblatt
Lawyer as a Problem Solver	L. Kaipo Kaawaloa, Esq.
Friend of the Center	Matterhorn
Above & Beyond	Ned Busch
Peacemaker Award	Captain Thomas Taflinger

OUTREACH: PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES & FAIRS

MCP regularly participates in fairs and conferences to showcase MCP’s services in a broad array of areas and promote the early use of mediation.

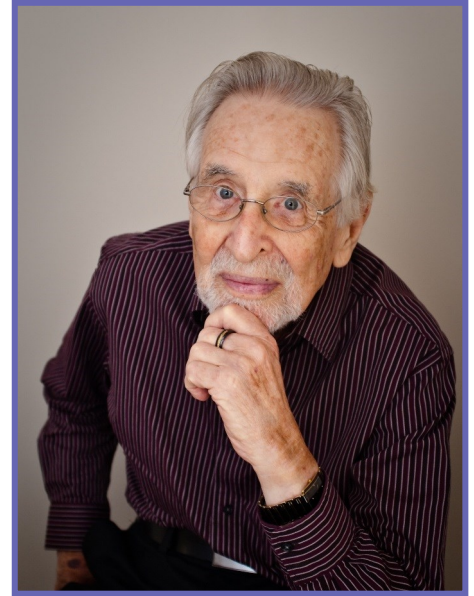
- At the Leadership in Disabilities & Achievement of Hawaii’s traveling mini-conference in October, MCP provided information to families with children with disabilities about **special education mediation**.
- At the SHRM Conference, the Art of Kūkākūkā Pono (strategic conversation), MCP encouraged businesses and human resource professionals to create cultures of conflict resolution and prevention in their workplaces and refer disputes early to MCP’s **workplace mediation program**.
- At the Waikiki Community Center Senior Wellness Fair, seniors learned about MCP’s **Dispute Resolution in Housing program** that helps to address landlord-tenant, roommate and other housing conflicts.
- At the Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society’s monthly webinar series for caregivers, MCP presented strategies to talk with family members about care plans and minimize arguments.
- In November, **Kaiser Permanente Hawaii** hosted a series of presentations about MCP’s **Kupuna Pono Program** at their clinics and YMCA’s across the island.



In 1993, Earl Chapman, a former Board member, mediator and businessman, had a vision. Earl so strongly believed in the mission and work of MCP, that he envisioned growing MCP's services and placing it as a key community resource in a building of its own. To help promote that vision, Earl made a generous donation to MCP to start a building fund. While MCP was not in a position to embark on such a large undertaking at that time, Earl believed that one day, his dream would come true.



In late 2018, the decision to move forward with identifying a permanent home for MCP was made as part of the strategic plan following the results of a feasibility study conducted by consultant Patti Look.



After searching for nearly two years, MCP found the perfect building that will solidify its position as a central resource for Oahu's communities, particularly for individuals in the low-income populations. Conveniently located at 1301 Young

Street, the building provides three large and two small mediation rooms, a dedicated training room, and a conference room where family conferences, community discussions and difficult conversations can be facilitated.



Thanks to the leadership of Board President Sidney Ayabe, the generosity of the Earl and Margery Chapman Foundation, the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, and many others, on February 5th, Earl Chapman's dream will become a reality when the purchase of the building is finalized. Following a few renovations, operations will move to the new location during the last week of February and MCP will be open for business on March 2nd!

The Board of Directors and staff are excited to start this new chapter in the growth of MCP and look forward to welcoming you in our new home. A \$5 million capital campaign is being conducted to support the purchase, renovation, move and expansion of programs in the new building. For

this reason, MCP has cancelled its annual Under the Mediation Moon fundraiser scheduled for May, and fundraising efforts will focus on the Capital Campaign. An open house at Hale O Pono will be coordinated for later this Spring! Stay tuned!



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Kukui Children's Foundation
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**MAHALO
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!**



TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PEACEBUILDERS

Every year Scouts from different troupes around Oahu come to Ali'iōlani Hale to earn their Citizenship badge. In October, Juniors and Cadettes (grades 1—4) learned about alternative dispute resolution, including mediation and facilitation, as well as ways to solve problems in their own lives. MCP's Special Programs Coordinator introduced the Scouts to the tools of effective listening, empathy, and kindness. In addition, they learned about court processes and trials from the Education Specialist of the Judiciary History Center. In January, the program will welcome Seniors and Ambassadors (High School Juniors and Seniors) who will earn their badge by exploring civil debate, finding common ground, and compromise.



INTEGRATING CONFLICT MANAGEMENT INTO THE WORKPLACE & COMMUNITY

December was a busy month. In early December, MCP sponsored a Mediation and Conflict Management Master Class for 24 local, national and international mediators and conflict resolvers. Led by Dr. Peter Adler and Mediator Lou Chang, the class brought together experienced practitioners to share best practices, discuss new approaches, and expand their conflict management skills.



Later in December and again in early January, MCP staff conducted a two-part mediation training for the leadership of the John A. Burns School of Medicine. Twenty-four people were introduced to mediation skills and an informal process for addressing workplace conflicts early.

Finally, at the end of December, MCP conducted a three-hour mediation workshop on Managing Difficult Family Members, for the entire 65 member staff of the Plaza Assisted Living.

SHARPENING MCP MEDIATOR SKILLS

Advanced Mediation Training

The Annual Advanced Mediation Training was held in November. Experts from the conflict resolution community led modules on different topics to develop the participants' skills to disentangle challenges that can hinder an otherwise successful mediation. With this training, many apprentice mediators completed the final requirement of the Apprentice Program to become MCP Mediators. Several community members, who had already participated in the Basic Training, honed their skills to apply at their businesses, law offices, and schools.



Mediator Brown Bags

MCP's volunteer mediators consistently engage in enriching training to improve their skills and maintain the standards of practice established by MCP. In September and November, MCP invited experts to talk about divorce in the military and ASL interpreters in mediation. The specialized workshops and Brown Bags enhanced mediator skills and tools and enabled them to put mediation participants at ease, so they are ultimately successful in resolving their differences.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Accelerated Divorce Mediation Training *

Thursday, February 20, 2020 9:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.
Friday, February 21 and Saturday, February 22, 2020 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Kukui Center Room 103

Divorce Mediation offers a custom model for a neutral mediator to assist divorcing couples in negotiating agreements on property division and custody and visitation issues, while focusing on the “best interests of the child.”

Basic Mediation Training *

Thursday, April 2 and Friday, April 3, 2020 9:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 4, 2020 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
1301 Young Street, 2nd floor

Basic Mediation offers an introduction to a facilitative model of mediation and the core skills of effective listening, asking powerful questions, maintaining neutrality, interest identification, negotiation, agreement writing, ethical considerations, and managing challenges.

Go to www.mediatehawaii.org to register for trainings or contact mcpadmin@mediatehawaii.org for additional information.

*** Seating in trainings is limited. Early registration is encouraged.**

**NEW DREAMS, NEW DAYS, NEW WAYS
WISHING YOU THE BEST IN 2020!**