

Mediation Services for Anoka County

Creating Peaceful Solutions

2009 Annual Report

Creating Peaceful Solutions Since 1987



2009 Board of Directors & Staff

A Special Thanks to All Who Supported Mediation Services in 2009

Individual and Business Supporters

John Austin; Barna & Guzy Law Offices; Bromley Printing; Breitbach Family Dentistry; Mary Ann Broos; William Burns; Dan Ceynowa; Mick Chmiel; Culver's of Anoka; Debbie Dahl; Tami Duke; Famous Dave's; Vicki Granos; Cheryl Hanks; Gerry & MaryAnn Herringer; Dolores Hillstead; Bill Hunt; Richard Jefferson & Alice Johnson; Mark & Eva Jeppson; Robert M.A. Johnson; Paul Johnson; Debbie Kutina; Bill & Rev Jan MacNally; Al & Sue Madison; Dave & Lonni McCauley; Donald Meslow; Sue Schirmers; Lisa Schmidt; Tim Snell; Jerry Soma; Priscilla Speakman; Mary Steege; Linda Stonecash; Paul Talbot; Brad Thiel; Kathryn Timm; Linda VanDriel; Amanda Vickstrom; Roger Volden; Diane Wolter

Foundation Support

Anoka County Bar Association; RBC Dain Rauscher; ECM Publishers; Mercy & Unity Hospitals; Target

Community Groups

Anoka Rotary; Coon Rapids Lions; Coon Rapids Rotary

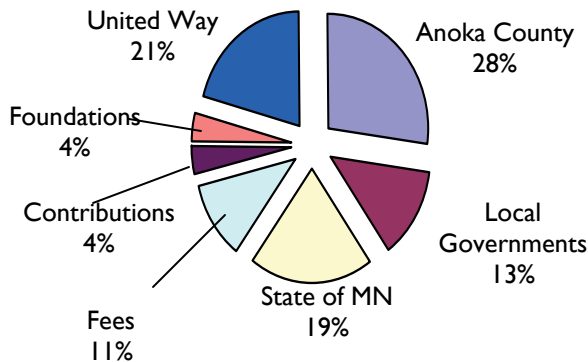
Municipal Partners

Andover; Anoka; Bethel; Blaine; Centerville; Circle Pines; Coon Rapids; East Bethel; Hilltop; Lexington; Linwood Township; Oak Grove; Ramsey

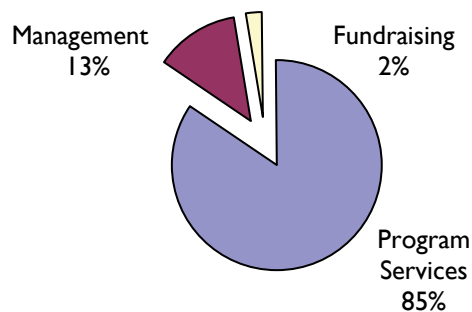
Memberships & Affiliations

MN Council of NonProfits; Coon Rapids Youth First; Coon Rapids Rotary; Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce; Metro North Chamber of Commerce; United Way CAE; MN Restorative Services Coalition

2009 Revenue \$195,292



2009 Expenses \$164,344



Mediation Services for Anoka County 2009 Board of Directors

Debbie Dahl, <i>President</i>	Lonni McCauley, <i>Vice President</i>
Bill Erhart, <i>Treasurer</i>	Anita Tomlinson, <i>Secretary</i>
Susan Anderson	Elizabeth Bromley
Dan Ceynowa	Nancy Ernewein
Marti Gustafson	Paul Ireland
Maggie Larson	Craig Malm
Brad Thiel	Kathryn Timm
	Amanda Vickstrom

Staff

Kathryn Jensen, *Executive Director*
 Deb Huebner, *Administrative Assistant*
 Rachael Rich, *Restorative Justice Specialist*



Greater Twin Cities
United Way



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Mission Statement

Enhance relationships between and among the residents of Anoka County by providing voluntary mediation services. Promote and educate the residents of the community in alternate dispute resolution techniques, promote peace and harmony in the community to supplement the legal system.

Dear Friends of Mediation Services,

Serving as President has been a very rewarding experience on so many levels. I am so very proud and always impressed by the generosity, talent, and compassion of those involved with MSAC. Helping people take steps to reach positive solutions to difficult problems is the ultimate reward. As a volunteer mediator, I am grateful for the opportunity to help others in crisis and have witnessed the "magic" unfold as parties create long-lasting change. So much takes place behind the scenes, however, which is just as magical and contributes to successful mediations. Thanks to our outstanding and talented staff, I believe our clients, volunteers, colleagues, collaborators and donors receive their service with care and compassion. Without a doubt, the efforts and contributions of all those involved have touched the lives of thousands of people and will impact them for years to come. In 2009 MSAC:

- *Improved agency and client security.*
- *Launched a new website*
- *Emphasized outreach and public relations to improve MSAC visibility.*
- *Strengthened board membership and participation.*
- *Increased the number of cases, mediations and outreach over 2008.*
- *Improved efficiencies and reduced expenses in general administration and operations.*

Thank you,

*Debbie Dahl
2009 Board Chair*

Success Story

Mom and Dad were never married and Dad did not exercise much parenting time until they were in court when their daughter was two on child support issues. He then began to spend a longer time with his daughter and then desired overnights. In mediation Mom was unwilling to give him all the time he wanted right away, but willing to agree to a flexible parenting plan that increased Dad's time slowly. The parties were agreeable and excited about how well they could communicate within the safety net of the mediation. "It was a chance to be heard without interruptions, and I could finally understand where the other parent was coming from." one of the parents stated.

End of Year Statistics

Number of cases: 541
Number of mediations: 115
People served through casework
Information & referral: 4,810
Outreach: 4,851
Peaceful Alternatives Class: 91
Number of volunteer hours: 2,202
Adults/training hours: 390
In Kind Volunteer Hours = \$110,000

Volunteer Awards



George Wallin
Mediator of the Year



Anita Tomlinson
Beulah Lea Memorial Award

MSAC provides the following services:

Community Program

Neighbors—Landlords and Tenants—Employers and Employees—Large Group—Family Communication—Bullying—Schools

Shared Parenting and Parenting Time Expediting Program

Co-parenting issues (post-divorce & non-married couples)—Schedules—Transportation—Holidays. We cannot mediate child support or custody issues. Court appointed expeditors act as mediators/arbitrators, saving parents \$\$ in litigation.

Restorative Justice Program

School, community, and court referred cases for disorderly conduct—theft—assault—damage to property—juvenile and adult diversion cases—Victim Offender Dialogues provided.

Peaceful Alternatives Class

Community referred or court mandated, youth learn how to make better choices. Low recidivism rate within one year (87% non-repeat).

It gave me new ideas on how to try and control my anger—I will think twice about getting into a fight—I now have a plan to deal with the bully that harasses me at school—I am going to remember the 3 "R's" we learned: Respect for myself, Respect for others, and take Responsibility for my actions.

MN State Court Roster—Rule 114

MSAC is on the state court roster of mediators. All of our volunteer mediators have Rule 114 Civil Mediation and/or Family Law Training and take 6 annual educational credits.