

Beginning with this issue, the Commission will be distributing its newsletter, *Resolution*, electronically. The newsletter will also be available through the Commission's Web site at: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov.

Please note that this Web site address has recently changed.

The Commission welcomes your comments, news, calendar events, and suggestions for future issues.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

Resolution

The Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Issue No. 04-1, 2004

- **Commissioners and Staff** www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/commissn.htm#commissioners
- **Note from Director** www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/director.htm

Articles in this Issue

For the complete article please click on the link at the end of the summaries.

Education – K-12 and Higher Education

[1] Ohio Hosts National Conference on Conflict Resolution in Education – May 2004:

The Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution, the Interfaith Center for Peace, the Association for Conflict Resolution, and the Ohio Resource Network will sponsor the first-annual national conference, *What Works! Innovations in Conflict Resolution Education: Early Childhood to Higher Education* in Columbus, Ohio May 5th - 8th, 2004. For more information and to register please visit: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/ncre.htm

[2] Building a High School to College Peer Mediator Bridge: Today peer mediation programs have become quite common in high schools. Thousands of programs now exist across North America. Each year students with mediation training and experience graduate, and many go on to college. However, while the number of mediation programs at colleges and universities is growing, few high school mediation program alumni ever connect with these programs. Bill Waters Director of the Conflict Management in Higher Education Resource Center at Wayne State University looks at how we can do a better job to support high school mediation program alumni in their transition to college, and future careers in conflict resolution: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/highered/bridgeArticle.pdf

[3] Mediation in University Settings: The Ombuds Office at the University of Colorado:

Learn how mediation is being used by the University of Colorado's Ombuds Office to resolve disputes that arise in university settings. This article also highlights the University's Restorative Justice Project, the first of its kind at a major US university: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/highered/U.pdf.

[4] Conflict Management and the Role of Teacher Preparation Programs: Preparing teacher candidates with the capacities of knowledge, skills and dispositions to meet the needs of all students in today's

schools is challenging. Professors Barbara Trube and Kenneth Leighfield explore the role of teacher preparation programs in Ohio: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/schools/highered/Trube%20article.pdf

[5] Commission Participates in UNESCO Conference on Conflict Resolution in Schools: As part of an international effort to promote school-based conflict resolution, the Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution recently participated in an international conference, *Conflict Resolution in Schools: Learning to Live Together*, in Kontakt der Kontinenten, Netherlands. The conference was sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and was a great success with 180 participants from 45 countries, who shared a wealth of expertise, dedication and enthusiasm. Learn more about the conference and its outcomes: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/pdfs/IntlConfer.pdf

Community and Court

[1] Building Strong Communities: The Akron-Based Foundation for Conflict Solutions

The Foundation for Conflict Solutions (FCS), based in Akron, is dedicated to working with youth and communities on potential life-changing learning that incorporates conflict management and mediation skills. To learn more about the valuable work provided by FSC please visit: [The Foundation for Conflict Solutions: An Akron-based Community Resource.](#)

[2] Mediation's Benefits Extend Beyond the Table: Read real life stories describing how the hard work of Ohio mediators and community mediation centers is benefiting parties far beyond the mediation table: [From the World of Mediation: Mediation's Benefits Extend Beyond the Table.](#)

State and Local Government

[1] Commission Announces Public Disputes Project: The Commission's Public Disputes Program was established to provide impartial third party dispute resolution assistance to state and local government officials, community leaders and the public to prevent, address and resolve public policy issues. Issues often addressed at the state level include agency rules, regulations, policies and guidelines, while local issues include inter-governmental and multi-jurisdictional land use and service delivery disputes. Funding for the use of collaborative processes is available to state and local governments through the Public Disputes Program. For criteria on case selection and project announcement information please see: *"We Produce Agreement"* [Public Disputes Program Project Announcement www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/pdpann2.htm](http://www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/pdpann2.htm).

[2] Commission Survey Looks at How the Use of ADR in State Agencies Has Changed: A 2003 survey of the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in Ohio government agencies indicates a strong interest in using ADR to resolve workplace and personnel disputes and modest growth in the use of mediation and facilitation to address agency rules, regulations, and policy guidelines. To read an overview of these findings, please visit: [State Agencies Expand Use of ADR](#)

Contributions

Finding Justice Through Mediation: Mike McCord, mediator and past Chair of the Cleveland Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee looks at the role of mediation in helping individuals to create their own justice, a justice that benefits all. In mediation, justice is created by those directly involved in the conflict. Only they can determine what is just in their own particular situation. Justice is something they give to one another, and even more importantly, give to themselves. [Mediation: Self-Determination and Social Responsibility](#).

Other News

The Uniform Mediation Act is Introduced in Ohio as House Bill 303: For information on the UMA and House Bill 303 please see: www.disputeresolution.ohio.gov/UMA303.htm

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The views expressed by contributing authors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management. If you would like to receive future editions of this newsletter electronically, please send an email with your email address to portia.gray@cdr.state.oh.us.

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