

Got Conflict?SM

Conflict Hurts. Mediation Helps.



AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE CONFLICT MEDIATION SERVICES SINCE 1979

Content

September 2022

Note from Gail

Dear Friends:

CDSC Bash!

Building bridges, people to people, face to face:

Meet Sue Marsh

Not only has this been our mantra and mission for over four decades, it is the theme of our upcoming BASH event.

Trainings, Workshops & Services

Mark your calendar: Wed. October 19th for one virtual hour: 5:30-6:30pm.

Get Involved

Details below including our Community Peacemaker Honorees.

AmazonSmile

Your support matters: [Click here](#) to make it happen.

Support CDSC in 2022

Send us a picture of your favorite bridge, with your message about why building bridges between people is important and resonates for you.

- Can you name the bridge in my photo?

One summer highlight: our staff has grown with a new Director of Operations. Sue Marsh has joined our team and has already been making a significant contribution.

- See her message below.

We are building momentum with our DEI (Diversity Equity & Inclusion) Initiative through the creation of a Task Force, composed of board, mediators and staff, which will lead our efforts. We welcome any and all guidance and advice as we seek to set goals and establish a DEI action plan.



- If you are interested in participating, please contact Sue Marsh: smarsh@communitydispute.org

With gratitude,
Gail S. Packer, MSW
Executive Director

CDSC *Virtual* Bash! October 19, 2022 5:30-6:30pm

We hope you are ready to celebrate: by staying connected and building bridges together!

This October 19th, all the friends of the Community Dispute Settlement Center will gather together (virtually) for our annual BASH. We'll mark 42 years of building bridges between essential mediation and training services and those most in need.

2022 CDSC Community Peacemaker Awards: Madison “Matt” Thompson & Elena Sokolow-Kaufman

[Learn more about the honorees here!](#)



Your support will not only provide us the resources to continue our work, but will also honor two outstanding Community Peacemakers who have made significant contributions in helping CDSC and our community to stay connected during this time.

[Reserve your ticket or Sponsor the Bash here!](#)

Meet CDSC's Director of Operations:



Meet CDSC's Director of Operations:

Sue Marsh: As CDSC's newest staff person, I am eager to work with this talented team to expand access to justice through its conflict resolution and mediation work. I come to CDSC with long experience as an executive director in the nonprofit world, in a variety of settings – from an organization primarily focused on Beacon Hill to a community center for poor and homeless women in Boston's South End. I look forward to tackling a variety of initiatives aimed at harnessing CDSC's potential, maintaining its commitment to excellence and growing its services. [Email Sue](#).



Trainings, Workshops & Services

UPCOMING TRAININGS: [Click here for more info!](#)

**NEXT 32 Hour Basic Mediation Training: October
October 12, 17, 24, 26, 31 & November 2, 7 & 9**

Virtual Mondays & Wednesdays

All sessions: 1pm-5pm on Zoom

This training is currently full and accepting a wait list.

[Click here to Register Now!](#)

Please [contact us](#) to be added to the mailing list or with any questions regarding the Fall 2022 Basic Mediation Training.

Conflict Skills Workshops

Would your group or company benefit from mediation training or conflict resolution services? Along with training for mediators, we offer *"Tools for Dealing with Conflict Effectively"* in two-hour, half-day, or multi-day interactive, skill-based workshops customized for your group or organization. Workshops are currently virtual. Call 617-876-5376 or email cdscinfo@communitydispute.org.

"Your presentation was well organized, personal, informative and engaging. Although I am often perceived as competitive because I tend to be outspoken about my ideas, when it comes to communication I see myself as quite collaborative—and if people really know me, I think they would agree. Your workshop obviously gave me much food for thought." **-Workshop Participant**

Conflict Coaching and Mediation

Do you know an individual in need of conflict resolution services? CDSC offers conflict coaching services to individuals as well as mediation services to disputants on a sliding fee based on income-based rates. Please refer that person to us: call 617-876-5376 or email cdscinfo@communitydispute.org.

Get Involved

- We are currently seeking **multi-lingual volunteer mediators**.
- Do you have a skill that you would be willing to share on a volunteer basis? We have needs for professional help and guidance in the following areas: IT, Human Resources, and writing. Please reach out to learn more and find out if your skills and availability match our current needs.



In November of 2020 Massachusetts launched a new statewide [Eviction Diversion Initiative](#) that is run through the MA Office of Public Collaboration (MOPC) and the MA Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD). The program supports mediation centers by providing free mediation to landlords and tenants involved in evictions due to Covid-19. It complements CDSC's existing mediation services offered through court-connected referrals and those referred from "upstream" community organizations and connections.

We would like to hear from you

Here's what 2021 Spring Mediation Training Participants are saying:

"Engaging"

"Learning New Things with Amazing People!"

"The Instructors are great!"

Learning from the experience of others is valuable. Please share stories or quotes about how mediation and conflict resolution has affected you and those around you. Conflict hurts. Mediation helps. We would like to hear from you!

You Can Have AmazonSmile Donate to CDSC Every Time You Shop (at no cost to you)!

AmazonSmile donates proceeds to the Community Dispute Settlement Center every time you shop! It is part of their program to benefit nonprofits like us, and it does not cost you anything!

It's easy to register and you can now use it on your iPhone and Android phones. [Click here](#) to learn how to turn on AmazonSmile in your mobile app. AmazonSmile will confirm your choice to donate twice per year.

Established in 1979, the Community Dispute Settlement Center (CDSC), is a private, not-for-profit mediation and training center dedicated to providing an alternative and affordable forum for resolving conflict.

CDSC promotes better ways to understand and deal with conflict through skilled teams of pro bono mediators, training programs in mediation and conflict management, and broad community outreach.

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