

**Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima & Kittitas Counties**

Yakima Legal Center  
303 East 'D' Street, Suite 4  
Yakima, WA 98901-2300

Phone: (509) 453-8949 (Yakima)  
Phone: (509) 925-5123 (Ellensburg)  
Phone: (800) 853-8949 (Toll Free)  
Fax: (509) 453-0910  
Email: info@drcyakima.org

TO:

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**We'd Like to Thank Our Sponsors!**

Many thanks to the sponsors of our 2010 Mediation A Path To Peace Fundraising event:

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**Look Ahead to National Conflict Resolution Day, October 21, 2010**

National Conflict Resolution day will be celebrated this year on October 21, 2010. The DRC is planning some activities again for this year, likely to include a mediation demonstration. We need your ideas for how to spread the word about the peaceful resolution of conflict. We will also need your help on the 21st as we carry out those activities. Give us a call if you have ideas or want to participate. Let's think big!

**Interested in a workshop for your workplace or other organization? Contact Meredith to design a workshop to meet your needs at 453-8949 or coordinator@drcyakima.org**

**DRC Now on Facebook!**

We have entered the new social networking age. We have a Facebook page! Please become our friend. We will keep you posted on events at the DRC via Facebook! Become a DRC Friend, search for us- DRC Yakima.

**Our task is not to fix blame for the past, but to fix the course for the future.**

**- John F. Kennedy**

**Ways to help the DRC everyday: Good Search, and Recycling!**

Remember, you can help us everyday by continuing to use Goodsearch.com for all of your internet based searches, and Good Shop for any internet purchases. Just go to Goodsearch.com or Goodshop.com and make the DRC of Yakima & Kittitas Counties your designated charitable recipient.

Also, RECYCLE at Central Washington Recycling and tell them you want the money to go to the DRC! Every dollar counts, and helps us help this community.



**D.R.C. Newsletter**

**Issue 7- August 2009 - June 2010**

**Director's Message**

Dear friends,

Hello from rainy Yakima. Who'd a thunk sunny Yakima would become the Olympia of the east this year? Despite the cool rainy weather, things have been hot and hoppin' here at the Dispute Resolution Center. Our mediation session numbers continue to track at the same number that we experienced last year, our highest year on record.

As part of that growth, we have a higher number of people requesting mediation services whose first language is Spanish. We want to serve them in their native tongue but need more bi-lingual mediators to help. Do you know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a bi-lingual mediator with us? If so, we are able to dramatically reduce the cost of our mediation training for them. Please checkout the training article on page 2 for more details on our upcoming fall training. Please encourage people you know, bi-lingual or not, to consider taking the training. People needing to check into scholarship options, can call the office at 453-8949.

Our second annual Mediation: A Path to Peace event was a great success. This year's luncheon event was held at the Yakima Convention Center on May 13th. We had a slightly smaller crowd than last year (about 120 attendees), but raised more money. Contributors and underwriters provided \$20,842 in support.

Our fundraising goal for the year is \$40,000. We'll have an event in Ellensburg this fall and we hope our Kittitas County supporters can attend and contribute generously. Another great way to support the DRC's services this year, is to pledge to Tom Clayton's "Riding to Make a Difference" 200 mile bicycle ride. See the article about Tom's ride below. Those of us who are aging (all of us!), avid bicyclers and DRC supporters may especially connect with Tom's purpose. At the ripe young age of 50, I completed my first century ride (100 miles in a day) earlier this month. For Tom, at age 65, to take on 2 back to back century rides is an inspiration. I hope you can help make the ride a fundraising success! Thanks for all you do to make the DRC's work a bright spot in our community.

*Matt Fairbank*

**Riding 200 Miles to Make a Difference for the DRC- Support Tom Clayton and Support the DRC**

On August 24th and 25th, 2010, DRC Board Member, Tom Clayton, age 65, will undertake a two day, 200 mile bike ride. The ride will be a fitness challenge, a celebration of friendship with his longtime friend Jim Olson, 69, as well as an opportunity to raise funds and awareness for the Dispute Resolution Center. Tom's goal is to raise \$10,000 or more for the DRC. A big part of the ride is about changing the stories we live by especially as they relate to aging. Tom hopes to inspire others to consider the limitless possibilities as they grow older and bolder.

Philanthropy is a deep passion of Tom's. He loves the following definition:

Philanthropy is often thought of as something only the wealthy can engage in: an endowment, a trust fund, a tens- of- thousand dollar donation. But it isn't just that. By definition, philanthropy has a simple meaning: loving mankind. We see it every day—in a kind word, an act of generosity, one to another. Simply put, it is each of us looking out for one another and seeing that what needs to happen, does.

Please join Tom in being a philanthropist by making a pledge to the DRC. We thank you so much for your support, generosity and interest. Together we can make a real difference; one that will make the world a much better place.

Follow Tom's ride preparations and learn more about the ride on http://ridingtomakeadifference.blogspot.com. You can also link to the ride on Facebook from the DRC website, www.drcyakima.org. Please spread the word about Tom's ride and ask others to pledge along with you.

Issue 7

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June 2010

**DRC CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Meredith Bruch:  
coordinator  
@drcyakima.org

Matt Fairbank:  
matt@drcyakima.org

Evelyn Heflen  
vom@fairpoint.net

Mary Kenney:  
mary@drcyakima.org

Lowell Murphree:  
lowell@drcyakima.org

DRC information:  
info@drcyakima.org

Website:  
**www.drcyakima.org**



## DRC Annual Report 2009

We had a record breaking year in 2009. We had 151 Mediation Cases in 2009, more than in any previous year (an increase of 35 more cases over 2007 totals, and an increase of 44 more cases over 2008 totals).

We have also had 57 VOM meetings. many of these meetings were held with just the offenders, but 17 cases were those in which the victims chose to take part. In 93% of all VOM cases the youth either entered into an agreement with the victim or wrote a letter of apology to the victim! These have been a great success, helping to change the lives of the youth in our community in a positive and lasting way.

Our volunteers put in 2086 hours of time over the year! Incredible work Mediators and Board members!

Finally, we have had 729 inquiries for services, not including VOM case referrals. We are some busy people!

We truly appreciate the help and assistance of every DRC volunteer and supporter. We enjoy working with such a broad spectrum of people, and your individual talents vastly benefit the DRC, our clients and our communities.

Thank you!

Volunteer Hours	2086 Hours
Service Inquiries	729 (not incl. VOM referrals)
DRC In-House Mediations	151 Cases 124 Resulting in Settlement (82% Settlement Rate)
Small Claims Mediations	321 Cases 140 resulting in Settlement (44% Settlement Rate)
VOM Cases	57 Cases 53 Resulting in a letter of apology or agreement

### DRC Mission Statement

The DRC of Yakima and Kittitas Counties provides mediation services, training and other ways for people to peacefully solve disputes themselves.

## Basic Mediation Training: September/October 2010

Our annual Basic Mediation Training Course is coming soon. On September 24 - 26 and October 8 -10, 2010 we will be training community members in the practice of facilitative mediation.

This training is great for HR professionals, teachers, customer service agents, supervisors and managers, social workers, attorneys, counselors, ministers/clergy, and for anyone who wants to improve their communication skills for use in the work place, or at home. Individuals from occupations of all sorts have taken our training and use it on a daily basis improving their personal and professional relationships.

As one trainee put it: "As a Human Resources professional I deal with conflicts on a daily basis. The mediation training that the Dispute Resolution Center provided really challenged me to learn a new model and approach in facilitating communication between individuals. I highly recommend this valuable training for anyone."

This annual training is the first step in the process of becoming a certified and practicing mediator. The cost of the training for residents of Yakima or Kittitas Counties is \$450, and \$500 for residents of other counties.

Some partial scholarships are available to

those who are willing to become volunteers for the DRC. As our recent statistics show (above), we have an increased need for mediators due to an increase in the demand for mediation services. We also have a need for mediators with language skills in English and Spanish. **Additional scholarship dollars may be available to those who are bilingual in English and Spanish and will volunteer for the DRC.**

Contact Meredith at 453-8949 or coordinator@drcyakima.com for information, a brochure or registration form.



## DRC Yard Sale: Friday, July 23 7:00 am-3:00 pm

That's right, the DRC is having a yard sale, and we need your donations to make it work. Although we had a successful fundraising lunch this year, we have still not reached our fundraising goal for the year. So we are getting creative.

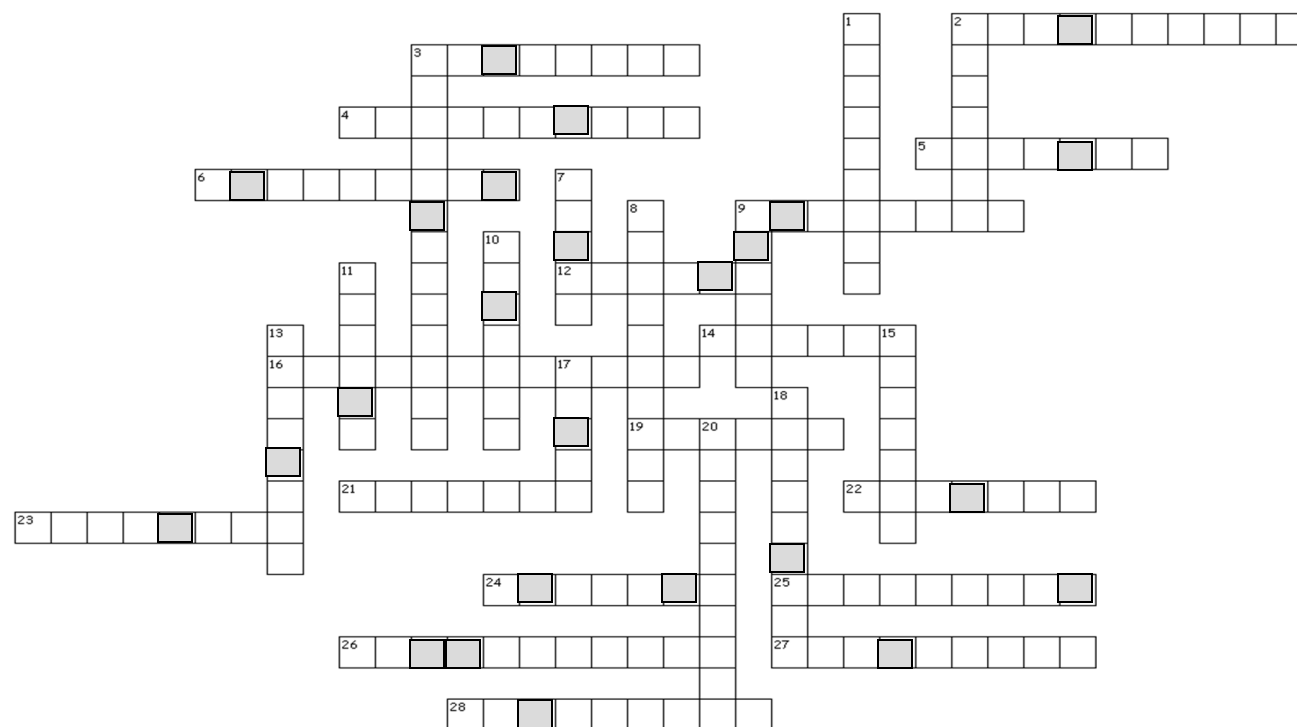
Our Yard Sale will be held at the home of Pat and 'Salie Cockrill at:

**2405 W. Chestnut Ave.  
Yakima.**

The sale will run all day  
**Friday, July 23, 2010**  
**7:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

We will be accepting donations up until the day before the event. **Please contact Meredith on her cell at 901-0715 to arrange to drop off your contributed items.** We will also need help in setting up the sale on Thursday, July 22 from 1:30 pm until we finish, and in running the sale itself on Friday! Contact Meredith to volunteer to help.

## Mediation CrissCross



- Part of our name
  - A part of everyday life, often seen as negative, but not necessarily so.
  - People we can't do without
  - One of the 3 R's; What firefighter's do to a call.
  - A key element of facilitative mediation; Chosen or intentional.
  - What we hope to help people avoid; they cost a lot of money!
  - A private meeting with each party
  - Another part of our name
  - A promise to our clients; What we discuss remains \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The items people need to discuss, the tip of the iceberg
  - One of the 3 R's; Aretha Sang about it!
  - What people will hopefully express: Aerosmith says its sweet.
  - What we help people develop; An antonym of "problem".
  - The First part of our name.
  - One thing mediators strive to be; Nonaligned.
  - We \_\_\_\_\_ what people have told us; It gives them a sense of being heard, and helps them to let go of past grievances and move forward to resolve their problems.
  - To discuss ways to solve a problem, some people don't do this well.
  - A requirement for participation in mediation; keeping an open mind, listening to the other's perspective, discussing alternatives are all elements of this.
  - The rest of the iceberg-what lies beneath
  - One of the 3 R's. We do this with emotion, like a mirror.
  - The "win win" conflict style, what we hope clients will do to solve their problem.
  - We are walking down a Path to this.
  - A key mediator trait-not taking sides
  - The most helpful thing we do; what people really need someone to do for them;
  - Advocates, which we are not. Clients pay a lot for these folks!
  - A list of things clients are willing to discuss.
  - What we hope to help people avoid- from the Latin meaning sharp or sour.
  - A 4th R- to take a negative statement and turn it into a neutral or more positive one.
  - We \_\_\_\_\_ our clients to solve their problems themselves; something, once lost, that is hard to rebuild.
  - The service we provide.
  - The final stage of mediation; a written agreement.
- The letters from the shaded squares make a phrase: \_\_\_\_\_

**If war is the violent resolution of conflict, then peace is not the absence of conflict, but rather, the ability to resolve conflict without violence.**

**-C.T. Lawrence Butler**