

Conflict Resolution Education

WHMC provides conflict resolution training to groups, businesses, organizations and schools. These programs are designed to match the needs and interests of each group. We are active in elementary, middle, and high schools, teaching children how to resolve conflict. Our peer mediator program helps youth develop lifelong skills in working through conflicts.

Training

WHMC trains people interested in becoming volunteer mediators, as well as those who would like to learn mediation skills. Newly trained mediators are paired with experienced mediators who mentor them during actual mediations. Mediators often decide to complete additional training in specialized areas. The Center offers advanced training in other areas, such as domestic disputes, condominiums and special education.

Volunteer mediators tell us they appreciate the personal growth that comes from learning these skills, as well as the satisfaction that comes from helping the people of our community better resolve conflicts.

Facilitation

Facilitation services are offered to community groups and organizations. We provide a neutral party who can help plan and conduct meetings which are inclusive, productive, focused and where all parties are invested in the outcome.

Mediation

Mediation is a confidential process that provides community members a lower cost, effective and empowering process for resolving a full spectrum of disputes. Our mediators are trained community members who believe in this process and volunteer their time to provide this meaningful service. Through mediation, a safe place is created for parties to dialogue and find fair, mutually satisfying agreements for both parties.

The process has many advantages:

More Control Over the Outcome

When a judge decides a court case, usually one party wins and one party loses. Mediation steps away from the win/lose model, allows for a wider discussion of the issues, and searches for solutions that everyone can accept.

Lower Cost

Mediation is less expensive and less time consuming than litigation and solutions are reached in most cases. We provide our services at minimal cost or, in case of those who cannot afford to pay, for free.

Privacy

Courts are generally open to the public. Mediation is a private process.

Faster

You can usually schedule a mediation session sooner than you can get an appearance in court.

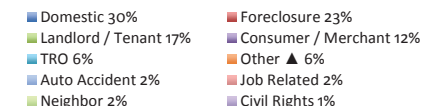
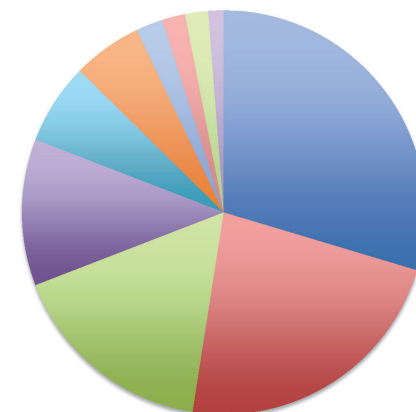
Informal

The process is a mediator-guided, informal discussion without the confining rules of court proceedings.

Maintaining Relationships

To avoid future disputes, mediated agreements often include provisions governing how the parties will deal with one another after mediation. Parties have the opportunity to return to mediation as needed.

2013–14 Mediation Case Types



"Other" may include topics such as auto accidents, personal injury, harassment, assault, special education, civil rights, vocational rehabilitation, and land use.

For More Information:

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Twenty Five Years of Helping People Find Successful Solutions

West Hawaii Mediation Center is celebrating twenty years of people from the community helping their neighbors better resolve their conflicts through mediation, facilitation and conflict resolution training.

We serve our island community in four main ways:

Mediation—helping neighbors, divorcing couples, consumers, businesses and many others successfully resolve disputes.

Conflict resolution education—helping groups and educating youth, teaching them peaceful and constructive conflict resolution processes.

Training—developing mediators, facilitators and providing members of our communities with the skills to reduce conflict.

Facilitation service—helping groups work through diverse issues to find common ground.

Solutions! Satisfaction! Success! Mediation Works!

A large percentage of our clients reach mutually satisfying agreements, and over 90% indicate they are satisfied with mediation services they receive. Clients tell us again and again that the mediation process is rewarding, and they would use it for resolving disputes in the future.

“Mediators were calming and professional in this emotional situation.”

“Very pleased with this process, helped tremendously to place everyone at ease.”

“Mediators were patient and compassionate, really stuck to the issues when we got off track.”

“The experience was surprising and better than I thought!”

WHMC is partially funded by the State of Hawaii Judiciary, the State of Hawaii Attorney General, the County of Hawaii, the Hawaii Justice Foundation and Hawaii Island United Way. Additional funding comes from grants, service fees, and donations from foundations, community members and organizations like yours

Mediation: Solutions You Create

“For over 20 years the West Hawaii Mediation Center has provided the West Hawai’i community with a viable and economic alternative to the formal legal process. I have seen first hand the success of mediation and encourage anyone who has a dispute or conflict with another party to try mediation and contact WHMC.”

*The Honorable Joseph P. Florendo, Jr.
Third Circuit District Court Judge*



West Hawaii Mediation Center

*WHMC is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization.
Donations made to WHMC are tax deductible.
WHMC is a Hawaii United Way partner agency*