



CENTER FOR DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT
peace it together

Annual Report April 2023 – March 2024



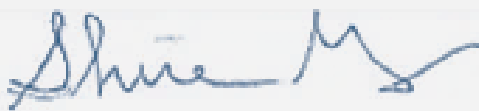
Message from Our President/CEO & Board Chair

What an exciting year it has been! Some of our highlights from 2023-2024 include:

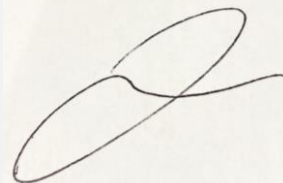
- Celebrating our 50th Anniversary Gala at the Holiday Inn in downtown Rochester with almost 200 attendees
- Closing over 1,800 cases and delivering 62 trainings, serving approximately 4,600 people
- Facilitating Anti-Bias training for over 100 participants, including court staff, nonprofits, and community members
- Providing restorative justice circles for youth involved in auto thefts and related crimes

In the context of a year marked by heated political debate, we reaffirm our commitment to upholding our democratic ideals of diversity and dialogue – for the next 50 years to come.

Thank you for being part of this incredible legacy of peacemaking.



Shira May
President/CEO



Joe Brown
Board Chair



50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA AUGUST 10, 2023



The Center for Dispute Settlement
50th
ANNIVERSARY
1973 - 2023

"Creating Conflict-Resilient Communities"

Thursday, August 10, 2023
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Holiday Inn Hotel
70 State Street, Rochester, NY 14614



ABOUT US

Our Mission

To use and promote peaceful dispute resolution processes throughout our communities



Our History

- Established in 1973 during the Civil Rights movement
- 1st Community Dispute Resolution Center in NYS and 3rd in the country



Who We Are

- 22 staff
- 42 volunteer mediators
- 13 Board of Directors

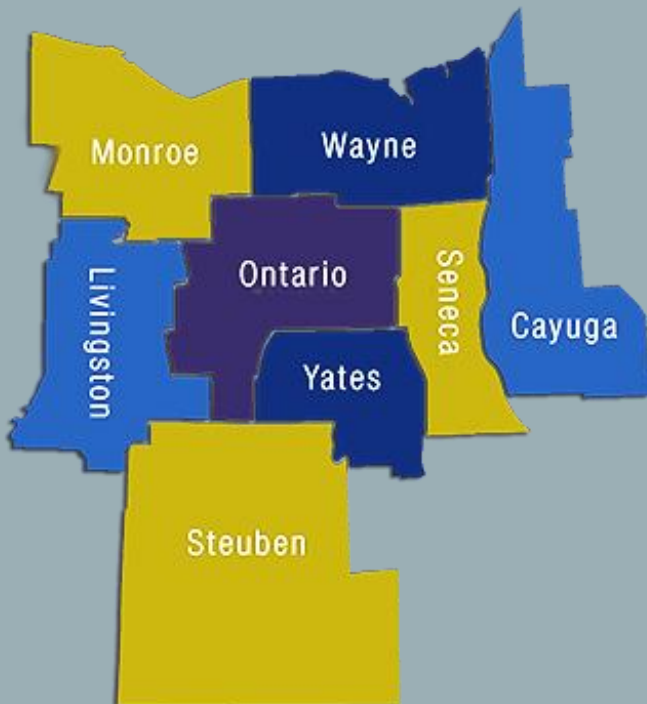


Did You Know?

- Our mediators have an average of **10 years of experience**
- Two of our staff are **certified mediation trainers** through the New York State Unified Court System's Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution

BY THE NUMBERS

Counties served:	8
Total cases closed:	1,841
Cayuga:	114
Livingston:	130
Monroe:	550
Ontario:	418
Seneca:	106
Steuben:	356
Wayne:	116
Yates:	51
Trainings delivered:	62
People served (approx.):	4,600



TESTIMONIALS

93% of our mediation clients were satisfied with their experience and would recommend mediation to others

“I am glad we went this route rather than court. I believe it made it possible to solve things in a much more peaceful setting. I'm hopeful the agreement we reached will keep co-parenting more amicable and better for the children.”

“I felt this was the best place to have the discussion. We were able to voice our concerns, preferences, and needs... without judgment or criticism. It was safe and everyone walked away with some degree of closure.”

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) SERVICES PROVIDED

- Custody & Visitation Mediation
- Divorce Mediation & Arbitration
- Special Education Mediation
- Early Intervention Mediation
- Community Mediation
- Community Dialogue Facilitation
- Conflict Coaching
- Restorative Practices (Circles)
- Lemon Law Arbitration
- Commercial Arbitration
- City of Rochester Demolition Hearings/CHAPS
- Surrogate Decision-Making Committee
- ACCES-VR

TRAINING TOPICS



- Basic Mediation Training
- Custody & Visitation Mediation
- Divorce Mediation
- Peer Mediation
- Restorative Practices
- Conflict Skills
- Anger Management
- Implicit Bias
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (DEIB)

SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

Training and Consultation

CDS provided training and consultation to a growing number of nonprofits, government agencies, and private businesses. Pictured: Yates County training participants, August 2023



Volunteer Engagement

Our volunteer mediators bring a wealth of personal and professional experiences to their role. CDS offers numerous opportunities for continuing professional development, as well as volunteer appreciation events.



Outreach and Community Awareness

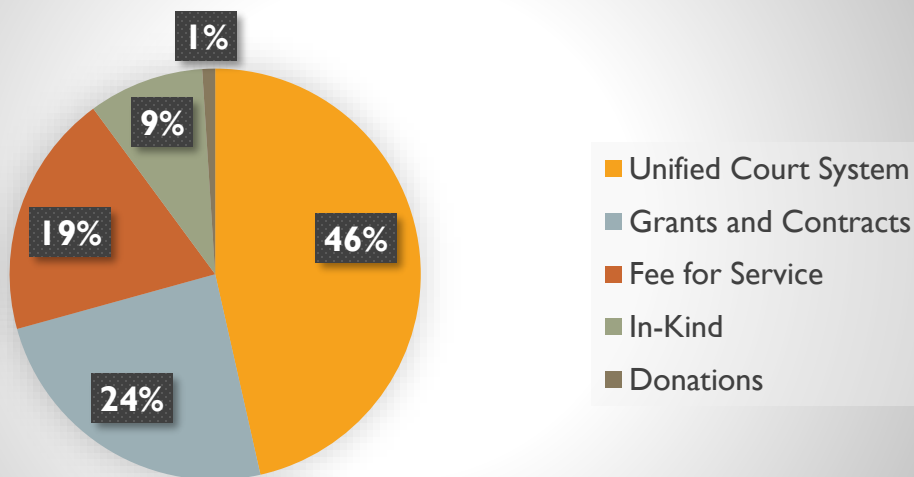
Our staff can frequently be found out and about in our communities, promoting conflict resolution and educating the public about our services through media stories, presentations, health fairs, and other community events.



OUR PARTNERS IN 2023-2024

- Canandaigua City School District
 - Center for Youth
 - Central Library, Rochester
 - Eleversity's Women of Color Summit
 - Greater Rochester Association of Realtors
 - Hillside Family of Agencies
 - Living Well
 - Monroe County FACT
 - Monroe County Pre-Trial Services
 - Monroe One BOCES Urban-Suburban Program
 - Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation
 - NYS Dispute Resolution Association
 - NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
 - NYS Division of Human Rights
 - NYS Unified Court System, 7th J. District
 - Ontario County Probation
 - Partners in Restorative Initiatives
 - Pathstone Housing Council
 - Rochester Institute of Technology
 - RochesterWorks!
 - Steuben County Department of Social Services
 - Steuben County Probation
 - SUNY Brockport
 - Untrapped Ministries
 - Urban League of Rochester
- Coalitions:**
- Domestic Abuse Review Team
 - Ontario County Restorative Practices Collaborative
 - Monroe County Criminal Justice Council
 - Rochester Restorative Administrators Group (RRAG)

REVENUE SOURCES



PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING!

\$1,000	Provides one school with a Peer Mediation Training
\$700	Provides one workplace with Implicit Bias Training
\$500	Provides one community with a Restorative Justice process
\$250	Provides one small business with a retainer for an Arbitration process
\$125	Provides one nonprofit professional with workplace conflict consultation
\$60	Provides two neighbors with a Community Mediation
\$30	Provides one co-parent with Conflict Coaching

3 WAYS TO MAKE YOUR GIFT:

Donate online at www.cdsadr.org and click **Donate**

Or mail your check to:

Center for Dispute Settlement
16 E. Main St., Suite 800
Rochester, NY 14614

QR code:





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