

Mediation
gives people
the chance to talk
and solve
their problems.

Mediation
is confidential.



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Dispute Resolution Center

*Serving Yakima and Kittitas Counties
Since 1994*

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Benefits of Mediation Over Court		
	Mediation	Court
Cost for both Parties	\$75-\$1,000	\$8,000-\$60,000
Timeframe to agreement on issues	Two to three months	One to two years
Tone	Cooperative, constructive, fair	Adversarial, antagonistic, divisive
Decision-makers	You and the other party	Court system
Likelihood of litigation	Low (less than 5%)	High (about 40-50%)
Privacy	Confidential	Subject to public disclosure

* From Martindale-Nola Research

Mediation is a positive alternative to court and is very successful most of the time. Have a voice in the decision and resolve your dispute privately and quickly.

Use mediation!

Contact us today!

Dispute Resolution Center

of Yakima and
Kittitas Counties

Since 1994

“People create resolution to conflicts with our help.”





Mission and Vision

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

Our goal is building strong, compassionate, peaceful, families, businesses, and communities.

What is mediation?

Mediation is a voluntary, confidential process through which people involved in a conflict can sit down with a neutral third party to resolve their differences.

Our mediators are professionally trained and certified. They listen to both parties and work with them to create a list of topics to be negotiated.

With the guidance of the mediators, the parties negotiate and discuss the issues and find an agreement that is acceptable to those involved in the dispute.

Things to know about mediation

- All parties must voluntarily agree to participate in the conflict resolution process.
- Mediation is confidential.
- All services are available in English or Spanish.

Mediation Services

The Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima and Kittitas Counties (DRC) offers a safe, neutral space where parties can find common ground and resolution to their conflicts. The DRC provides our community with a constructive alternative to litigation and going to court. Mediation services are available for a variety of circumstances including:

Family Mediation Work

- Divorce or Separation Issues; Parenting Plans
- Parent/Youth Conflicts
- Elder Care Plans including estates, guardianships and medical treatment arrangements

Professional Services for Businesses and Organizations

Did you know that unresolved conflict represents the largest reducible cost in many businesses?¹

It pays to develop better communication skills and conflict resolution abilities for a more productive and profitable workplace. We offer businesses and organizations the training, facilitation and mediation services that improve communication, negotiation and listening skills. We also offer a variety of programs that can be tailored to your specific needs.

Mediation Services for Seniors

Helping seniors, their families and care providers resolve conflicts such as: sibling disagreements; selling the family home; extended family living arrangements; disagreements between care providers and family; guardianships; trust and estate matters.

Small Claims

Settle small claims cases before trial.

Additional Mediation Services

- Consumer/Business Disputes
- Landlord/Tenant Disputes
- Personal Loans
- Auto Accidents
- Property Disputes
- Neighborhood Disputes

Victim/Offender Meeting Program - by referral only.

Learn the background of the youth's offense; answer the victim's questions; discuss the impact of the crime; acknowledge the harm; increase community safety. VOM services provided at no charge.

Foreclosure Mediation - by referral only.

This is a process where a neutral third party (the "mediator") helps the homeowner and the lender (the "beneficiary") openly communicate and reach a fair, voluntary, and negotiated agreement whenever possible.

FEES: How much does it cost for our services?

Intake Fee:
\$25 for each party (The fee is charged for General, Family, and Trust & Estate Mediations. The fee must be paid by the initiating party before the DRC contacts the other party and paid by the other party before mediation is scheduled.)

General Mediation Fees:
\$100 per party

Family Mediations:
\$125 per party (Applications are available for hardship assistance. The fee scale begins at \$25 per party.)

Trusts & Estates:
Generally, \$125 per hour

Custom Facilitation, Training & Workshops:
Fees start at \$200 per hour

No one is denied service based on inability to pay.
Call the DRC for more information at
509-453-8949

¹ Dana, Daniel (1999), *Measuring the Financial Cost of Organizational Conflict*, MTI Publications; Slaikeu, K. and Hasson, R (1998), *Controlling the Cost of Conflict*, Jossey-Bass Publication

Please call or email the DRC to discuss how we can help resolve conflicts in your family, business or organization.