



RESOLVE 2021

The DRC is staying busy. We need your continued support to keep up with the demand. The DRC's mission of affordable mediations is vital to the communities we serve. Thus far in 2021, we've mediated a total of 65 cases. Almost all of these mediations were hosted on ZOOM.

Looking ahead, the CTDRC has made a few staff changes. Alyssa Kutach, former Mediation Coordinator, has stepped into a new position as the Program Coordinator. We also have new staff and Board of Director members onboard. Our new Mediation Coordinator is Sarai Benitez and new Board members are Elizabeth Preston, Anna Boling and Mark Bigley. Welcome aboard Sarai, Elizabeth, Anna and Mark (see quarterly staff write-ups)!

We are in need of volunteers to serve on various committees. Please see the list of committees on pg. 3 that are eager for new members to join.

Board of Directors

President:

Brenda Jarden-Holter

Vice-President:

Al Vaughan

Treasurer:

Jehu Derrickson

Board Members:

Andrew Leonie III

Anna Boling

Elizabeth Preston

Mark Bigley

Patty Shafer

Director:

Martha Joyce

Program Coordinator:

Alyssa Kutach

Mediation Coordinator:

Sarai Benitez



Alyssa Kutach — Program Coordinator

Serving as the new Program Coordinator, Alyssa is the starting point for all programs that take place at the CTDRRC. She is the fulcrum around which the volunteers, trainers, and local community function to carry out the CTDRRC business. She answers the phone, interviews the volunteers, facilitates the paperwork and programs, finds the mediators, “juggles all the information”, and coordinates the various schedules. Alyssa’s job calls for flexibility, patience and tenacity.

Alyssa is a Credentialed Mediator and is passionate about workplace mediations. She also volunteers with a couple of local Mediation Boards such as Austin Mediators Association (Publicity/Technology Coordinator) and the Texas Association of Mediators (Newsletter Editor). Her most rewarding moments at the CTDRRC have been to see participants come in unsettled and upset about what’s to come, and leave with a smile on their faces as the result of having reached resolution during mediation. Her vision for the future is for the CTDRRC to have confident and returning volunteer mediators to actively serve their communities.



Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services.

Central Texas DRC

300 S. CM Allen
Parkway, Suite 400
San Marcos, TX
78666

(512) 878-0382

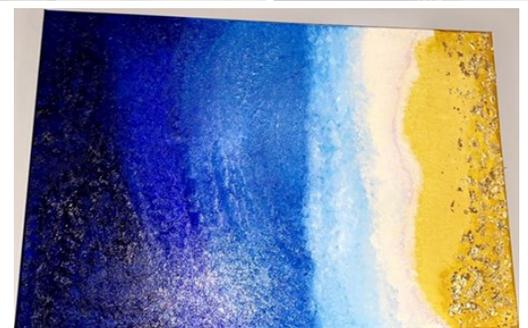
office@centexdrc.org

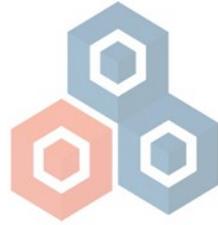
*“In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity”
- Albert Einstein*

Sarai Benitez: Mediation Coordinator

Sarai Benitez is our newest team member with Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center. Sarai received her bachelor’s degree from Our Lady of the Lake University. She interned in San Antonio and New Braunfels at local Attorney offices for the past couple of years. Within the past year, she was awarded her mediation certificate from Texas State University and will soon complete the Bar Approved program at Texas State University to receive her certificate in Paralegal Studies and Contract Management. Quickly following, Sarai will graduate with her Master of Legal Studies. She hopes to continue to work in mediation.

As the new Mediation Coordinator, Sarai is the starting point for the mediations that take place at the CTDRRC. She is the contact point for which the parties, mediators, and lawyers function to carry out the mediation process. She answers the phone, interviews the participants, facilitates the paperwork, and coordinates the various schedules. Sarai’s job calls for flexibility and patience, because often, mediations are cancelled and have to be rescheduled thus doubling the efforts needed for coordination. Sarai is a valuable support person for mediator training, and other important events alike.





CENTRAL TEXAS
**DISPUTE
RESOLUTION
CENTER**



MEDIATORS, THE DRC WANTS YOU!

The CTDRRC exists for the specific purpose of providing affordable alternative dispute resolution services to the citizens of Central Texas. We need your support to make this happen. Below is a brief description of each committee's duties. When you decide on the one you wish to participate, please email director@centexdrc.org.

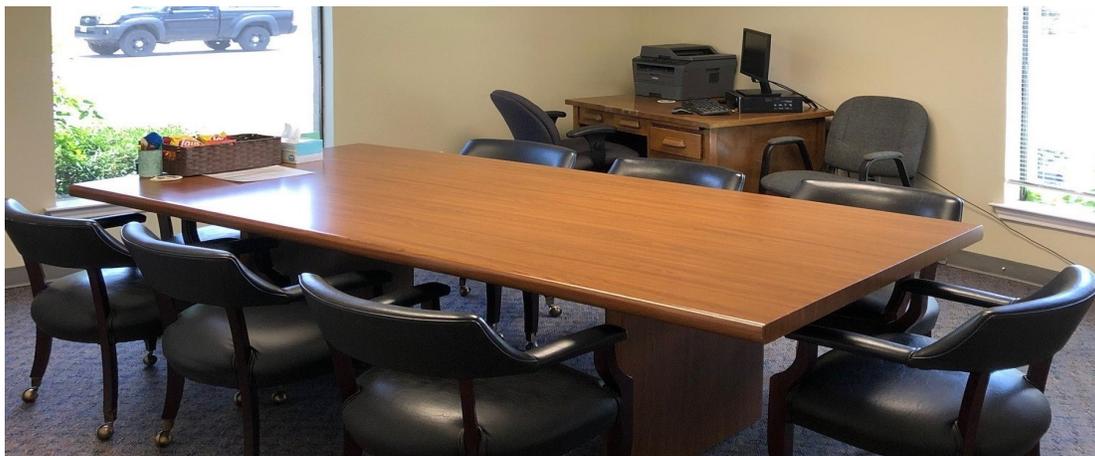
Fundraising/Social Events Committee explores events for opportunities to raise funds, researches grants, reviews current grants to check requirements and parameters, applies for grants; and takes opportunities to have events to promote the DRC.

Mediation Committee assesses and reviews the DRC's overall mediation policies and procedures, reviews the DRC's capacity to accept subject matter mediations, assesses mediators' training to meet the needs of the community and the DRC; reviews the DRC's mediation cost to the community, explores training opportunities for CLE/CEUs; and others duties as directed by the Board.

Finance Committee sets the budget, reviews spending trends and makes recommendations to streamline spending as necessary.

Training Committee strategizes on how the seats will be filled for trainings and evaluates training needs of targeted areas

Outreach Committee reaches out to the community through introductory engagements and the development of ongoing relationships. Continued outreach is critical to the growth and penetration into the mediation opportunity areas of Hays, Comal, Guadalupe and Caldwell Counties, as well as Law Enforcement.



Message from the Director

Thank you to our **Volunteer Mediators who have mediated for us in 2021!**

Despite COVID, you have stuck with us and been there to help us out. I can't thank you enough! Many of you stepped up and learned to mediate using ZOOM. ZOOM was a new way to mediate for most of us. Because of ZOOM, we don't get to see you as often as we did in the past. We miss that.

As we move out of this pandemic, I do not see ZOOM (virtual) mediations going away completely. When it is determined to be safe, we will again offer face to face mediations. Remember, we will always have the virtual component available as a tool.

You are the backbone of the Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center. Thank you for volunteering with us.

MJ

Training Updates

CPS Training Course

Date: May 13th, 14th, 20th & 21st

Time: 9AM—2:30PM daily

Location: ZOOM

Presenter: Chris Turner

Fee: \$500.00

Suggested Audience: Those who want to mediate Child Protective Services (CPS) cases that have taken both prerequisites of the 40 Hr. Basic and 30 Hr. Family courses.

40 Hour Basic Course

Date: August 5th, 6th, 7th, 13th & 14th

Time: 9AM-5PM daily

Location: ZOOM

Presenter: Chris Turner

Fee: \$750.00

Suggested Audience: Those who desire to advance their conflict resolution skills and mediate in the State of Texas.

