

What Is Peer Mediation?

Peer mediation is a quick and efficient way to resolve disputes. It allows students the opportunity to solve their own problems by encouraging effective solutions.

In addition it allows:

- A chance to be heard
- A chance to develop new ways of thinking
- A chance for the parties to develop their own solutions

Does Your School Need Mediation?

Is there lack of respect between students?

Has violence increased in or around your school?

Peer mediation can help by:

- Teaching students how to resolve their disputes peaceably
- Building their self-esteem
- Teaching respect for others
- Giving students options for problem-solving
- Allowing teachers more time for instruction and relieving them from spending time on discipline
- Creating a Better School Spirit

What Is A Peer Mediator?

A peer mediator helps the people involved in a dispute talk with each other about the conflict so each party can better understand why the conflict exists. As the facts and circumstances concerning the dispute are brought into the open, the mediator works with the parties to help discover possible ways the conflict can be resolved. The mediator manages the mediation session but does not decide what should be done to solve the problem. The people involved in the dispute decide for themselves what actions will occur, time frames, and other important details. The agreement is written by the mediator with the help of the parties, and is signed by all parties to the dispute.

How To Get Started

Let the Community Mediation Foundation help your school to be a safe and enjoyable place to learn.

We can teach your students how to mediate disputes in two days of training. Training may include some parents, teachers, and faculty. The concept of mediating disputes may be taught in grades 4-12.

What Is The Cost?

The fee for setting up a Peer Mediation Program in your school is \$1,000.00 plus travel expenses, and includes all materials and training for student mediators. The cost of re-training each following year is \$500.00 plus mileage & expenses, but can be much less if on-site coordinator does the training. **Statistics have shown an average of 14% reduction in fighting and 24% in discipline referrals in those schools using peer mediation.**

For information contact Anne Isbell, Executive Director at (256) 539-2118.

*Community Mediation Foundation
PO Box 383 • Huntsville, AL 35804*



Rules of Mediation

CONFIDENTIALITY

All conversations and materials produced during the mediation session are confidential except alcohol, weapons, drugs on school property or threat of physical harm. The parties will not disclose any other information discussed.

GOOD FAITH EFFORT

You agree to make a good faith effort to mediate your disagreement with the other party. In doing so, you agree to work cooperatively with the other party and the mediator by discussing the dispute and helping to work toward an agreeable resolution.

COMMON COURTESY

All participants will conduct themselves within the bounds of common courtesy. Name calling, foul or abusive language and the like will impede the mediation process, and may compel the mediator to cancel the mediation session.

VOLUNTARY PROCESS

Mediation is a voluntary procedure. While the mediator will make every effort to help you reach a resolution to your dispute, you are under no obligation to reach an agreement with the other party. Either party involved in the dispute may decide to have the mediation session ended at any time.

“These programs have been very valuable to our school.” Dr. Barbara Cordes, Collins Elementary School, Scottsboro, AL

“They are learning and implementing very valuable skills that will serve them well in interactions with others.” Jennifer Roach, Morris Avenue Intermediate School, Opelika, AL

“A wonderful program! Counselors, teachers and administrators love it!” Melissa Butler, Discovery Middle School, Huntsville, AL

“An excellent program that has paid great dividends for my school.” Martha McInnish, Riverton Middle School, Huntsville, AL

*COMMUNITY
Mediation Foundation*

Peer Mediation Program



***HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE
DEAL WITH CONFLICT
EFFECTIVELY***

***Community Mediation
Foundation***

PO Box 383 • Huntsville, AL 35804

(256) 539-2118

aisbell@northalabama.bbb.org