

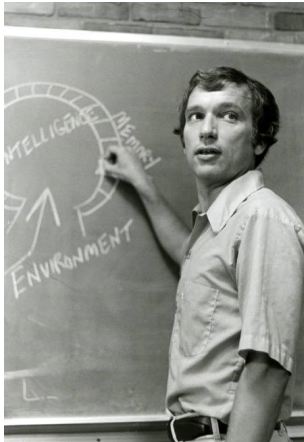
Reconciliation Notes

Spring 2019



Education for
Conflict
Resolution

Education for Conflict Resolution, Inc. exists to promote peaceful and productive resolution of conflict. This is carried out through direct services of mediation and consultation, and through educational activities in schools and communities. In all its work, ECR seeks to put the understandings and skills needed for successful conflict resolution into the hands of as many persons as possible.



Continuing the Tradition...

When the concept of community mediation was presented to the North Manchester area some 30 years ago, the idea of empowering persons involved in conflict with the tools needed for productive resolution was at its heart. Education for Conflict Resolution continues to honor the late **Dr. Gary Zimmerman**, whose vision and forethought provided the foundation of what we are today. During the time since the inception of ECR, we have witnessed many transformations, many individuals positively moving from dysfunctional conflict to a relationship of understanding and cooperation. This work has included teaching persons from upper-elementary age through retirement the skills imperative to healthy conflict management and effective team building. We see these skills in action from the playground to the boardroom.

We know these skills are valued by hiring managers who desire a team of employees who are able to navigate successfully through their differences. ECR values our collaborative relationship with Manchester University through which we work to enhance the students' educational experience by providing field placement opportunities, as well as offering training and mediation services to the MU community. We especially appreciate our close working relationship with the Peace Studies Institute and the Manchester Activities Council. Where will we find ourselves in the next 30 years...the future is open and we will continue to cast a wide net, addressing the needs of schools, communities and courts in the areas of mediation, transformative productive communication, conflict management and conflict resolution. T. Onderko

“Never doubt that a group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead



Reconciliation Notes

ECR Gary Zimmerman Memorial Donations: \$7,398.76

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Manchester University Collaboration Corner...

We continue to nurture our relationship with Manchester University, and are grateful for our direct connection with the Peace Studies Institute. The Coordinator this year, Zander Willoughby, has been an amazing resource and collaborating partner. Together we have added the use of Dialogue Circles on campus, with the goal of offering them two times per semester. Those who have participated have acknowledged the value and significance of dialogue in working to break through interpersonal barriers.

We also have had the opportunity to work with the University Safety staff. It is a pleasure to work with such a vested, dynamic team. Our time together has been spent exploring the role of productive communication in healthy conflict resolution. As a unit, they are in a unique position on campus, as they are charged with working with students in a variety of situations. Their goal is to maintain a balance of cooperation with the student body while employing those safety policies designed to ensure an environment conducive to the best higher education experience for MU students. T. Onderko

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ECR School Attendance Mediation Services Return

During the past year, ECR has partnered with the Wabash County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative to identify and provide services that can prevent juveniles who become involved with law enforcement from entering detention facilities. As part of this process, ECR was asked by the Juvenile Probation and the Court to provide School Attendance Mediation services to all the school systems in Wabash County. This is a re-activation and expansion of a program formerly provided to the Manchester Community Schools. Attendance mediation involves a meeting between the family (including older students) and school personnel sitting down with a mediator from ECR. The objective is to come up with shared solutions to the attendance problem that are then documented in an agreement signed by all the parties involved. The program has been made possible through the support of the Community Foundation of Wabash County, the Wabash County Family Court Project, and the Wabash County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. With the support of the three county school superintendents, the program was initiated in February, 2019 and is currently responding to referrals. Jim Shively

Mediating Interpersonal Conflict news...

ECR provided a 32 hour course of interpersonal mediation training in early February. We were pleased to work with 24 individuals actively vested in learning the process of mediation. This recent class, whose photo appeared on the front page, consisted of 2 community members, 7 Manchester University faculty/staff, and 15 MU students. We are privileged to have had such a dynamic group of individuals with whom to work.

In addition to this course, we continue to hold quarterly mediator meetings. These meetings focus on providing the opportunity for active mediators to network, review mediation tools and processes through role play and discussion, and to plan for future scheduled mediations. T. Onderko

THANK YOU! To Our SUPPORTERS *

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*Since Fall 2018



**Education for
Conflict
Resolution**

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Reconciliation Notes

ECR NEEDS YOU! At Education for Conflict Resolution (ECR) we are in the business of creating a more peaceful community and world by promoting and teaching peaceful and productive resolution of conflict. The impact of ECR in our community is significant, not only through the training of children in elementary schools, but in mediating with parents dealing with marital stress, disputes between neighbors, and many other settings. Sources of income for ECR include local businesses, churches, clubs, organizations, and foundations. Fees for training workshops and mediation comprise another segment of income. But, as with nearly all not-for-profit agencies, **critical funding for ECR comes from individuals-- friends and supporters who recognize the contribution of the organization to the community.** In the case of ECR, the history is that individuals make up a significant portion of the annual budget. Your gift helps ensure the continuation and growth of ECR's innovative programs and services.

An envelope is enclosed for your convenience, or donate on line at www.WorkItOut.org

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