

Reconciliation Notes

Board Member Introduction: Mandy Bailey



I am Mandy Bailey: a teacher, a mental health counselor, a mom and wife, an outdoor enthusiast, and a gardener. I am passionate about spending time with people, listening to their stories, and helping them reach their potential and goals. My primary job is serving Warsaw Community High School as a mental health counselor and teacher. I coordinate an alternative ed program called Step One, where we foster relationships, advocate for, and support students. I also coordinate a program called Strengthening Families for Kosciusko Cares. We facilitate opportunities for families to come together to reconnect or connect for the first time.

My husband and I were born in Warsaw, and returned here after college. We love our community and seek to positively impact the people here. We are passionate about increasing connectivity and inclusivity in our community. Dave serves as principal at Gateway Educational Center in Warsaw and is a facilitator at Strengthening Families. We have two children, Keller (18) and Finn (16). We love to spend time with them, watch their events, and especially to travel and adventure with them.

I am thankful for this opportunity to work with ECR. The work will directly impact my students and the families I serve in the community.

Board Member Introduction: Jack Fisher



I served as principal at Laketon Elementary School when Conflict Resolution was started in the Manchester Community Schools in the late 1980's. I found the modeling of conflict resolution to be an important step in helping students live together in the classroom, on the playground, and on the bus. Today, ECR helps parents have a good working relationship with the schools when issues arise that keep a child from learning. I hope that my background and help the ECR Board as they refine activities and responsibilities.

I served as principal at Laketon Elementary School when Conflict Resolution was started in the Manchester Community Schools in the late 1980's. I found the modeling of conflict resolution to be an important step in helping students live together in the classroom, on the playground, and on the bus. Today, ECR helps parents have a good working relationship with the schools when issues arise that keep a child from learning. I hope that my background and help the ECR Board as they refine activities and responsibilities.

I am currently retired after a 38-year career in education. I graduated from Ball State University with a major in biology and a minor in history. I taught a semester of junior high science before taking a position as a 5th/6th grade teacher, and I loved elementary education so much that I converted my license to elementary, and over the years I also served as principal at the Mentone Elementary School, the Laketon Elementary School, the Wolcott Mills Elementary School, and I returned to the Mentone Elementary School as principal in 1996. After my wife passed away in 1992, I remarried in 1995. Christine Miller Fisher and I reside in the neighborhood homes at Timbercrest in North Manchester, Indiana. We have five children, twelve wonderful grandchildren, and one adorable great grandchild. My hobbies are watercolor painting, woodworking, and reading. I enjoy keeping physically active by playing golf, gardening, table tennis, and walking.

"Since 2016, the number of youth who have been detained (by Juvenile Probation) has been reduced by 50-75%. **School Attendance Mediations** have made a significant impact in that regard."
- **Judge Robert R. McCallen, Wabash County Circuit Court**

Reconciliation Notes

Training Opportunity

Our most frequently requested mediations lately are **School Attendance Mediations (SAMs)**. We need more **SAM mediators (paid)**, so we will be offering two **SAM mediator trainings** - one in June and one in September. Both will have 3 short online sessions and one 6-hour in-person training day in North Manchester. Please consider taking this training. And feel free to spread the word! More information is available on our website:

www.workitout.org/focus-upcoming-events/

The training costs \$700, but Wabash County residents who agree to do mediations for ECR will receive a full scholarship to the training.

June training dates:
June 1, 8, & 15 (zoom) & June 17 (in person)

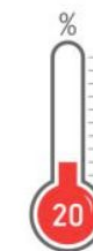
Registration for June is open; the deadline for the June training is Mon., May 22. Call the office if you have any questions: 260-982-4621

"The continued success of SAM's, as I see it, is dependent upon the availability of mediators and consistent training given to those mediators. ECR has moved in the right direction to create a new training aimed at attracting mediators for Wabash County and counties throughout the state."
Trisha Hanes, JDAI Coordinator & Probation Officer

Thank you for Supporting Us!

Donations 11/1/22 - 4/27/23

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Ruth Barrett | Dave Kreps |
| Dean and Reba Beery | Laurale and John Kreps |
| Lynn Blocher | Cheri Krueckeberg |
| Carolyn Bollinger | John Lahman |
| Yvonne Brand | Pam Long |
| Angie and Steve Briner | Stanley and Nancy Matheny |
| Andy and Betty Butterbaugh | Wilbur McFadden |
| Jim and Debbie Chinworth | Keith McWithey |
| Andrew Duffy | David and Teresa Migliorini |
| Nan Erbaugh | Ron and Bev Petry |
| Jan Fairchild | Doug and Paulette Reichenbach |
| Eileen and Jim Flory | Jan Rhoades |
| Jennifer Fray | Julie Scher |
| Elsie and Lonnie French | Denis and Mary Schwartz |
| Norris and Grace Friesen | Celia Shankster |
| Kathy and Paul Fry-Miller | Nancy Smith |
| Judith Glasgow | June Stealy |
| Lois and Dave Good | Linda Troop |
| Jane Grandstaff | Eileen Weck |
| Rachel and Bob Gross | Susan and William Weybright |
| Heidi Gross | Marie Willoughby |
| Marilyn Groves | Jeanne Smucker and Brad Yoder |
| Steve and Lila Hammer | Joel Eichenauer and Lori Zimmerman |
| Monie Harley | |
| Richard and Jane Harshbarger | Eel River Church of the Brethren |
| John and Ann Hartsough | Manchester Church of the Brethren |
| Steve Naragon and Pam Higgins | Elizabeth McGraw Webster & Maricich-Paen Family Foundation |
| Dennis and Carol Horn | |
| John and Tammy Horn | |
| Bob Jones | |
| Mitchell and Ann Kingsley | |



ECR has raised \$8,365, which is almost 24% toward our goal of raising \$35,000 in honor of our 35th anniversary!

Reconciliation Notes



PO Box 275
North Manchester, IN 46962

Spring 2023 Newsletter Education for Conflict Resolution Reconciliation Notes

35th Anniversary

It's ECR's 35th! Celebrate with us!

ECR has a dream this year. It may be a pipe dream; it may be an unrealistic dream; it may be a dream wrought from our very exhausted and slightly demented nonprofit imaginations. **Our dream is to honor ECR's 35th year of existence by raising \$35,000.**

It seems like a small amount as organizational fundraisers go, but to us, it's a lifeline. You see, we are an agency that operates on a budget of less than \$25,000 a year. \$35,000 would represent "all that and a bag of chips" for us.

When this organization was founded in 1988, it was the right time to seek Government funding for mediation and conflict resolution initiatives. I don't go that far back with the organization's history, but I think at that time and for most of the 90's, this organization was flush with government funding. At that time, a plethora of mediation/ conflict resolution groups opened their doors in Indiana.

But the government funding dried up, and other sources of funding were difficult to access because public awareness and interest also fell off. In the 21st century **ECR** fell on hard times.

It is no small thing that we are still here. Today, most of the smaller mediation agencies that flourished in the 80's and 90's have folded. The ones that did not fold, were forced to close their doors when the pandemic hit. **ECR** is one of a handful of mediation/conflict resolution agencies in Indiana still left standing.

We survived, barely, but we survived. We survived because of the grace and largess of our individual donors and patrons. We survived because a handful of hard-working board members and mediators thought what we had to offer was and continues to be of utmost importance. We survived because the services we offer are valued by our community.

If we can make this \$35,000 dream come true, we can make other dreams come true: We can offer our **School Attendance Mediation (SAM's) Mediator Trainings** to counties near and far; we can increase our pool of mediators to meet the demand for **SAM's** mediations by Wabash County Public Schools; we can work more closely with the Wabash County Probation Department to provide restorative justice programs for youth, helping them to avoid incarceration and detention.

We can do good work. Will you join us?

Linda Troop, Executive Director



Support our Go Fund Me fundraiser at <https://gofund.me/cc25a1f8>

A Special VIP Invite

Who?

Members, Patrons, and Friends of Education for Conflict Resolution

What?

ECR's 35th Anniversary Celebration!
(Light refreshments provided)

When?

Tuesday, June 20, 2023 - 6:30-8:30 pm

Where?

The Toyota Round Room at the Intercultural Center on the Manchester University campus.

Details:

Join us as we **celebrate our mediator heroes, recognize outstanding service to ECR, and wow you with our annual report.** Help us celebrate our wins this year, and find out **what's next at ECR.**

Who's Who at ECR

Staff:

Linda Troop - Executive Director
Tina Rieman - Office Manager and Mediation Case Coordinator

Board Members:

Linda Troop - Chair
Jan Rhoades - Vice chair
Pam Long - Treasurer
Kathy Fry-Miller - Secretary
Mandy Bailey
Kendall Brown
Angie Briner
Jack Fisher
John Horn
Cheri Krueckeberg
Kristen Short

"Before any major disciplinary action or affidavits to the local probation office, as required by law, are sent, an ECR Attendance Remediation is required. By putting this added step into our policy, the number of attendance affidavits has dropped by 68% from two years ago when we first started utilizing their services."

- Jeff Galley, Assistant Principal, Wabash High School