



# Willapa Community Network Newsletter

Your Connection to Our Community

September 2015

Volume 3, Issue 3

## Our Vision

Our vision is a thriving, connected, community achieved through enhanced leveraging of resources and services in north Pacific County.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to support an inclusive community network that encourages communication and collaboration among service providers, business, and volunteers, to enhance quality of life in north Pacific County.

## Next Meeting:

WCN meets on the first Wednesday of each month—all are invited to attend.

11:00 am—1:00 pm

Willapa Harbor Hospital  
Cedar Conference Room

## August 2015: Success Story from DRC

Recently the Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) of Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties faced a dilemma. We knew we had a strong mediation program. The disputes we mediate usually result in mutually satisfactory agreements. Often, our clients are astonished at the outcomes of their mediation as seemingly impossible disagreements settle. Relationships are mended through sincere apologies. Families leave with sustainable solutions and learn a new approach to managing conflict. Unfortunately, relative to the large number of disputes in our community, only a small percentage of people seek out the DRC mediation program. As hard as we try to promote mediation, the majority do not embrace what we have to offer.

We could go on providing mediation to the families, neighbors and businesses that do seek us out, yet we question whether doing so fully expresses a passionate commitment to our mission? So we made a decision to think proactively. Thus, we asked ourselves if we could adopt a preventative approach and if so, how?

Once we expanded our scope of vision new and unexpected opportunities presented themselves. For example: workshops for improving communication, teaching emotional regulation and increasing empathy among our youth; these are the central key elements in conflict resolution. Today the DRC works in partnership with juvenile courts, schools, DSHS and other nonprofits to teach students, parents and leaders to understand, embrace and resolve conflict on a deeper level: we teach the skills needed in deescalating tense and stressful situations in order to prevent disputes. Our wider scope has enabled us to reach more people in Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties which serendipitously lead to a greater interest in community mediation.

The DRC never lost sight of our mission to provide high quality conflict resolution services. Rather, the DRC of Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties achieved success when we became willing to change, adapt and attend to the needs of our neighbors living in the rural counties of Southwest Washington State.

Teen Advocacy Coalition & Willapa Community Network would like to introduce our AmeriCorps Volunteer Alyssa Grams.

She will be attending our WCN meetings and assisting TAC and WCN with projects.

Welcome Alyssa!



## Pacific County Public Health & Human Services .1% Sales & Use Tax Request for Proposals

Pacific County is currently seeking qualified individuals and/or agencies interested in providing Mental Health and/or Drug & Alcohol Treatment (and support) services in Pacific County. Interested parties must complete and submit a copy the Request for Proposal (RFP) via email to: Katie Lindstrom at [koiien@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:koiien@co.pacific.wa.us) by 5:00pm on October 26, 2015 to be considered for funding. Please feel free to share this with whom you think may be interested in applying. Contact Katie Lindstrom at 360-642-9300 ex 2648 or via email with any questions regarding the RFP. The full RFP with instructions can be found at: <http://co.pacific.wa.us/rfa-rfp-rfq/index.htm>

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Grays Harbor College is offering 4 Y's...** Your needs, Your location, Your schedule, Your way, contract training that meets the needs of the business, at their location or GHC, when they need it, and how they need it delivered. This is for specific skill training, for a few employees or all employees, or even new employees coming on board. Contact Nancy Estergard at 360-532-4012 or email [nancy.estergard@ghc.edu](mailto:nancy.estergard@ghc.edu)

**Raymond Timberland Library—For Adults—**  
**Business Breakfast Forum**  
Tuesday September 22 from 8am to 10 am. Join us for breakfast and a presentation on how to use library resources to develop and market your business. You will learn how to create marketing and business plans, research the competition, stay on top of trends and do customized searches of powerful online business resources. Continental breakfast will be served. Question? Contact: Emily at 360-942-2408 or email [epopovich@trl.org](mailto:epopovich@trl.org)



**Fall 2015**  
*40hr. Basic Mediation Training*

**DATE TIME AND LOCATION:**  
The Dispute Resolution Center  
207 S. Chehalis Street #301, Aberdeen, WA 98520

**Cost: \$99.00**

**Thursday: November 5th**  
**Fridays: November 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**Saturdays: November 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**  
All classes will be held from 9am-6pm. We will have several breaks and a 1 hour lunch.

Sometimes life becomes so busy that normal differences can turn into conflict. If this conflict is not managed it can fester into dispute. When dispute is not resolved it can deteriorate into a battle. Conflict is a normal part of life. Learning how to manage differences is the mission of this course.

This course is perfect for learning effective communication and negotiation skills. Anyone who wants to learn how to productively resolve conflict, or assist others in resolving conflict is welcome. Professionals and non-professionals alike will benefit from improved conflict management skills. Attorneys, judges, public servants, homemakers, business and HR managers, counselors, teachers, social workers, administrators, law enforcement professionals, students, negotiators, and everyone else will find true benefit from conflict management training and mediation skills.

If you would like to attend this training, please contact Donna Hallock or Barbie Smith @ The Dispute Resolution Center GHPC. (360) 532-8950 or:  
[donna@drchpc.org](mailto:donna@drchpc.org)  
[barbara@drchpc.org](mailto:barbara@drchpc.org)

Course Accreditation:  
CLE: 37.5 WSBA (4 ethics)  
CEU: 4 master's credits WWU

### Please Welcome our Pacific County Resiliency Corps!

I am happy to announce that the Pacific County AmeriCorps team, aptly named the Pacific County Resiliency Corps, is full for the 2015-2016 term! We have 12 new members scheduled to start September 1, 2015.

Please join me in welcoming: Rebecca Manlow (Big Brothers, Big Sisters), Taylor Hallowell (Big Brothers, Big Sisters), Taryn Pongratz (Boys & Girls Club), Colton Christner (Boys & Girls Club), Annika Wolters (Ilwaco High School), Kelsey Hopstad (Grays Harbor College), Talitha Cooper (Grays Harbor College), Rachel Grayson (Crisis Support Network), Kaiah Miller (Ilwaco Hilltop School), Hunter Garman (Ilwaco Hilltop School), Alyssa Grams (Teen Advocacy Coalition & Willapa Community Network), and Curtis Polteno (Peninsula Poverty Response).

Pacific County Youth Alliance (PCYA) and their partners started recruiting in March with a goal of 24 qualified, diverse candidates for the 12 service positions. Six months and over 160 applications later, I can say we accomplished that goal! Our members range in age, backgrounds, education, and experience! Some are local and some are not, but they are all very excited to be serving their term here and we're very excited to have them!

I invite everyone to join us in serving the community throughout the year. Our first community service day is scheduled for 9/11 and even though the members haven't officially started, they have started planning for it! (More details to follow.) Keep an eye out for our team and say hello when you see our volunteers! Thank you all for your support!

Email: [WCN@willapa.net](mailto:WCN@willapa.net)

[www.facebook.com/WillapaCommunityNetwork](http://www.facebook.com/WillapaCommunityNetwork)

