

WHAT IS MEDIATION

A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



WHY **MEDIATION?**

COMMUNICATION, CONNECTION, RELATIONSHIPS

Mediation Definition: a restorative practice that is a form of conflict resolution in which trained mediators work with a harmed party(s) and a responsible party to resolve an incident.

98% of harmed parties report satisfaction with the restorative mediation process.

96% of referred youth report the mediation process as feeling fair.

99% of restorative mediation processes result in an agreement

Youth diverted to CYS and engage in mediation are 166 times more likely to pay monetary restitution compared to youth who received a court order to pay restitution.

*The above results are pulled from CYS programming.

STEPS OF A MEDIATION





Gather: all involved parties (voluntarily) come together in a safe and private room.

- Framing: mediators offer framing (welcome, what is mediation, community agreements).
- Narrative Discussion: hear the perspective of the person who caused harm and then the person who was harmed. Invite others present to speak now as well (i.e. parents).
- Recap: the mediators will summarize what has been discussed and (\mathfrak{I}) list out the harms that were caused.
- Reach an Agreement: Mediators will help involved parties reach an agreement based on the harms that were identified.
- Conclusion: Recap the agreements that were decided and sign the agreement form.

Mediation can also take place more informally and on the spot. Check out what that looks like:



MEDIATION RESOURCES



HELPFUL CYS RESOURCES RELATING TO MEDIATION

Collaborative Conflict Resolution Guide:

Community Mediation Reference Card:





INTERESTED TO SEE WHAT AN **ACTUAL MEDIATION LOOKS LIKE?**

Watch this demonstration.



56 The primary reason for asking questions in mediation is to reveal the deeper, disguised, repressed sources of conflict that are hidden beneath the issues people are arguing about, and surface the complex wishes, desires, and interests that inform and give rise to each party's positions." - Ken Cloke



COMMON TERMS

TO NOTE: MEDIATION TERMINOLOGY VARIES. THE FOLLOWING TERMS ARE MEDIATION TERMS USED COMMONLY BY LOS ANGELES-BASED RESTORATIVE **IUSTICE PRACTIONERS.**

Harmed Party

The individual or group who was directly impacted by

the harm caused.

Person Responsible The person whose actions caused harm towards another individual, group, or whole community.

Harm

The direct mental, physical or financial impact caused to an individual, group, or whole community.

Repair

Involved parties will work together to address the harm through processes that prioritize healing and relationships.

Community Agreements/ **Ground Rules** A set of agreed upon guidelines for all involved parties to follow throughout the RJ process in order to foster a healthy environment.

Restitution/ Reparation

The way the person responsible makes amends to the person(s) harmed (ex: apology, monetary, service hours).

Mediation **Agreement** The document outlining the outcomes of the RJ process, which are agreed upon by all involved parties.





WHO CAN MEDIATION HELP?

MEDIATION ALLOWS PEOPLE TO GAIN PERSPECTIVE OUTSIDE OF THEIR OWN, WHICH LEADS TO GREATER AWARENESS, EMPATHY, AND ULTIMATELY UNDERSTANDING.

- People in conflict with family
- People in conflict with friends
- People in conflict with neighbors, community members or businesses
- People who have been harmed by one or more people
- Families in need of support to strengthen their communication and relationships

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEDIATOR?



SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER TO STAY UP-TO-DATE:

SIGN UP

EMAIL US TO GET ADDED TO OUR MEDIATION TRAINING INTEREST LIST:

INFO@CYS-LA.ORG

