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**CONCORD MEDIATION CENTER OBSERVES MEDIATION WEEK  
AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION DAY**

Omaha, Nebraska – October 13, 2017 – The American Bar Association (ABA) will observe “Mediation Week” during October 15-21, and the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) is recognizing Thursday, October 19 as Conflict Resolution Day. Locally, Concord Mediation Center is joining in the promotion of these important calendar events.

The theme for this year’s Mediation Week is “Mediation, Civility and the Power of Understanding.” The ABA notes, “Over the last few decades the field of alternative dispute resolution has grown tremendously. The recognition that not all cases are well suited for the adversarial process and that there are multiple paths to justice is increasingly shared by attorneys, judges and the public.”

ACR began observing Conflict Resolution Day in 2005, to promote the awareness of mediation and other peaceful means of resolving conflict. Mediation is a process in which a neutral third party incorporates skills and techniques to improve the dialogue between two or more parties involved in a conflict. The process provides the participants an opportunity to understand each other’s perspective and to discover creative solutions. Mediation can be used in families, schools, businesses, communities and governments.

Concord Mediation Center’s Executive Director, Cindy Tierney, says, “Mediation has many benefits. It provides: an opportunity for time and cost-efficient resolutions, realistic and sustainable decisions; empowered parties to maintain active control throughout the

process; the preservation of ongoing relationships or an amicable separation; and mutually satisfactory outcomes.”

Tierney said, “Our agency appreciates the interaction with our local courts, as a source of referrals. The courts recognize mediation as an alternative way to settle interpersonal differences that may lessen the courts’ workloads. We consider our positive relationships with the courts, in addition to the work of our trained staff and affiliated mediators, when we celebrate Mediation Week and Conflict Resolution Day.”

Tierney adds that the agency is sharing mediation information via its website and social media, in addition to providing an in-house training for staff and affiliates as part of its Mediation Week and Conflict Resolution Day observances.

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Concord Mediation Center, one of six centers in the state approved by Nebraska's Supreme Court's Office of Dispute Resolution, has provided innovative, peaceful alternative conflict resolution processes to both Douglas and Sarpy Counties, since 1999. Concord Mediation Center is committed to providing services regardless of a client’s ability to pay.

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