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CENTRAL TEXAS  
**DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION  
CENTER**

*February*

# Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center



## FAREWELL >>>

### *Thank You for Your Service*

*We would like to thank Elizabeth Preston, Andrew Leonie, and Mark Bigley for their time and dedication to the Central Texas Dispute Resolution's Board of Directors. Your time, support, and dedication to the DRC has been quite meaningful. The DRC looks forward to your future support as you continue to volunteer and advocate on behalf of the DRC. We are forever grateful for the time that you served and wish you well in your future endeavors.*

## *Saying Goodbye Appreciating Years of Service*

It is with considerable gratitude that we bid Brenda Jarden Holter, Board President and Al Vaughn, Vice President farewell. When they joined the board about 10 years ago as board members and subsequently moving into leadership, the Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) was at a critical moment of growth. Under their administration, we are glad to say it has grown. With their continued community engagements and tireless efforts knocking on community leaders' doors, the DRC expanded its reach into communities surrounding Hays County. Instead of serving one county, the DRC currently serves four, Hays, Comal, Caldwell and Guadalupe Counties.

Their strong leadership and collective experiences (Brenda being a private sector attorney and retired military officer and Al, a retired corporate sector businessman) set them up to have an immediate impact on the work needed to take the DRC to the next level. They did this by ensuring the right people were in the right places and developing community partners. Working in unison with the Director, they ensured the DRC applied for grants, brought in personnel to help manage public relations and projects, strengthened the board by recruiting new board members, activated board committees and strengthened the DRC's financial oversight while maintaining its mission of serving the underserved and unserved in the four counties.

According to the DRC's Director, Martha Joyce, "I don't think the DRC would be where it is today without the leadership of Brenda and Al. Today, the DRC is financially and physically stable. Their best efforts have gone into making the DRC a sound community partner. We thank them for their leadership."

Brenda and Al are leaving the board in very good hands. The new Board President, Patty Schafer and Vice President, Gary Graning will bring fresh energy and a new panoramic view to the board. Their solid commitment to the DRC's mission and the communities served makes them the perfect candidates to lead the DRC forward.

*The best way to find yourself is in the service to  
others.*



Welcome >>>

# Board Members

Patty Shafer

Gary Graning

Joyce Jack

Anna Boling

Jehu Derickson

Mary Bryant

Lynn Blackmore



We have made changes to our Board and would like to welcome all members into the DRC!



San Marcos River near the office

## On Location!

*Although COVID is still taking its toll, we have adapted our mediation practices. We continue to host most of our mediations on Zoom.. If you or your clients are not comfortable with using Zoom our facility can accomadate you!*

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## A Message From The President and Vice President

Being asked to lead the Board to further its success in dispute resolution work is both an honor and an adventure. CTDRC has accomplished amazing success since its beginning in 2010 and continues to do so. While mediating at the CTDRC over the last several years, I have grown in my appreciation for the work that the DRC does in Caldwell, Comal, Guadalupe and Hays counties and the amazing staff that makes that possible. With the goal of getting better and better, our Executive Director Martha Joyce and Board Vice-President Gary Graning, and I are attending training for leaders of non-profit organizations. This will be followed in a few weeks with training for our entire Board of Directors. The DRC is fortunate to have a staff of three exceptional ladies—Executive Director Martha Joyce, Program Coordinator Dana Williams, and Mediation Coordinator Que Semien. This trio is amazing and keeps the DRC functioning well and moving forward. Our sincere appreciation to all three of you!!!- Patty Shafer

From the Vice President, Gary Graning:

I have been mediating (with many of you) for the past four years. Recently I was honored to be appointed to the Board of Directors of the CTDRC and was given the responsibilities of Vice President of the Board. It has been an immediate learning experience for me. My focus will be on identifying the CTDRC's goals and projects, and with your help creating plans to accomplish them. I look forward to working with all of you!



# Events

*Over the past few months, we have been on the move and participating in community events. We remain excited about spreading awareness about the benefits of utilizing our mediation services*



The Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center was invited to the Hays County Bar Associations's Bench Bar Conference on November 4, 2021. We were able to have a silent auctions where the proceeds would be used to help the DRC provide the best services when resolving dispute. This past year was the most successful year of fundraising surpassing our goal of \$3,000.00. We want to thank all of those who donated and bought items to help us achieve our goal!

The Westside Community Center held a legal clinic on December 7, 2021 where registered individuals could come and ask non-criminal legal questions. The clinic was able assist 24 people thanks to our volunteer attorneys (John Clifton, Fred Cludius, Timothy Walker, and Wade Arledge)!

On December 10, 2021, we attended a Christmas Coffee at the McKenna Foundation. This event was held for all the non-profits that partner with McKenna as an appreciation for the hardwork that everyone had done over the year. We were recognized for our outstanding work in providing mediation services for the unserved and underserved.

The Adult Leadership of New Braunfels encouraged the DRC to participate in a gathering with community volunteers driven to help. We were able to put together a group of interested volunteers ready to start mediating.



***Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope - Martin Luther King Jr.***

***Martha and Que Participate in the MLK Parade***

Martha and Que participated in The Dunbar Heritage Association's celebration in honor of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King. They attended the traditional wreath laying and march through downtown to the Paul Larurence Dunbar Recreation Center. These events were a part of the larger three day celebration that recognized the DHA 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The DRC has joined them for many years to honor the MLK federal holiday.

*ask the experts >>>*

**Q:** *Do you value ZOOM Mediations?*

**A:** *Yes, it provides a safe, effective way to provide mediation services throughout the state of Texas.*



# Updates

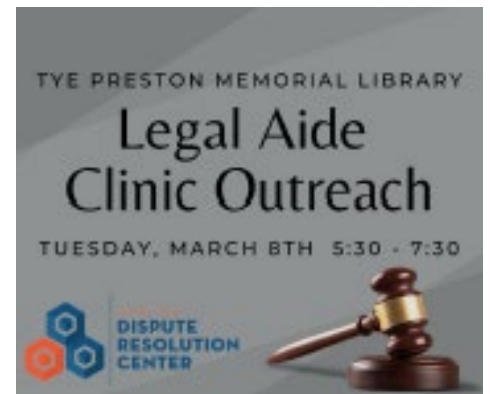


The Central Texas DRC was awarded \$5,000 in grant funding from the City of San Marcos' Human Service Advisory Board. We will be using these funds to actively work within the community.

Tye Preston Memorial Library will be hosting a Legal Clinic on March 8, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Each participant will be allowed 15 minutes with an attorney to ask non-criminal questions. To attend you must register through Tye Preston's website.

We are excited to announce a few updates to the website. Customers can now pay for mediations and trainings online. The payment buttons below will connect you to PayPal for access to pay at anytime. The Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center is always grateful for donations and now it can be made easier with a donation button on our home page!

The McKenna Foundation awarded the CTDRC with a \$15,000 grant for 2022. The majority of these funds will be spent on marketing our services in Comal county. They also awarded us a 3-year IT capacity grant for \$3,825.00 to assist with IT support.



## Central Texas DRC Training Services Cost

Trainings are scheduled in three different blocks. See below for details and payment structure. Call our office at (512) 878-0382

<b>40 Hour Basic Training</b> 40 Hour Basic Training - \$750.00 Pay Now 40 Hour Basic Training \$750.00	<b>30 Hour Advanced Family Training</b> 30 Hour Advanced Training - \$600.00 Pay Now 30 Hour Advanced Family Training \$600.00	<b>20 Hour CPS Training</b> 20 Hour CPS Training - \$500.00 Pay Now 20 Hour CPS Training \$500.00
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<b>Civil Mediation Fees</b> Civil cases are scheduled for four hours. In Service Mediation Fee - \$75.00 Out of Service Mediation Fee - \$150.00 Pay Now - In Service Fee - \$75.00 Pay Now - Out of Service Fee - \$150.00	<b>Family Mediation Fees</b> Family cases are scheduled for eight hours. In Service Mediation Fee - \$150.00 Out of Service Mediation Fee - \$300.00 Pay Now - In Service Fee - \$150.00 Pay Now - Out of Service Fee - \$300.00
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### Community Disputes

Central Texas DRC accepts virtually all of these cases, however, there may be specific circumstances to decline a case at Central Texas DRC's prerogative.

### Civil Cases

The amount in dispute must be under \$50,000. There is no fee for cases that are ordered by Justice of the Peace Courts in the counties that we serve. There is no fee for these cases if ordered by Justice of the Peace Court.

### Family, Divorce and Child Custody

Central Texas DRC eligibility limit for these cases is based on the income of one party to earn \$60,000 or less annual income, and combined value of parties' net asset equal \$50,000 or less.

The Central Texas DRC takes a preventative approach to resolving conflict in our area. We seek to use training and community education to resolve conflict before it becomes a judicial or legal case. The Central Texas DRC does mediate cases ordered through the courts as well as those cases referred by an attorney and initiated by a party in conflict.

The Central Texas DRC serves approximately 500,000 citizens in Hays, Comal, Guadalupe, and Caldwell Counties.



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