

WEST HAWAI'I MEDIATION CENTER

Providing high quality conflict resolution services throughout West Hawai'i

Change Through Communication.

As we celebrate Black History Month in February, I've been thinking a lot about the crucial role that mediation and negotiation skills play in making change in our communities.

In his Letter from Birmingham Jail, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. famously wrote about the blueprint for change and noted that the purpose of marching in the streets is to encourage one's opponent to sit-down and negotiate--to find solutions and common ground. He wrote:

"You may well ask: 'Why direct action? Why sit-ins, marches and so forth? Isn't negotiation a better path?' You are quite right in calling for negotiation. Indeed, this is the very purpose of direct action... The purpose of our direct-action program is to create a situation so crisispacked that it will inevitably open the door to negotiation."

While each of us may hold different visions of what "change" means, it is clear that having the skills to negotiate, to MEDIATE, and to find common-ground is essential to making it happen.

And so, we salute the work of our volunteer mediators for serving as catalysts for change in our communities and we invite you, our supporters and friends, to join us by taking part in the exciting training opportunities and conversations happening here at WHMC.

> With Aloha, Zaheva & the WHMC Staff

TRAININGS & TALKS

February

Domestic Mediation Training Location: NHERC, Honokaa Date: February 25 & 26, 2017 Time: 8:30am - 4:30pm Open to Mediators of WHMC & KMC

March

Waimea Community Association Talk Location: Waimea Middle School Cafeteria Date: Thursday, March 2, 2017 Time: 5:15pm – 7:00pm

Brown Bag w/ Judge Auna, Family Court Location: Family Courthouse, Kailua-Kona Date: March 16, 2017 Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm Open to Attorneys and WHMC Mediators

Facilitation: The Basics Location: Waikoloa, Queens Shops Date: Friday, March 31, 2017 Time: 9:00am Open to All; Spaces are limited.

Contact us to register or to find out more @ 808-885-5525 or by email at <u>info@whmediation.org</u>

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