

## **Executive Director's Board Report**

### **March 15, 2023**

#### **Celebrations**

We are excited to celebrate that staff members Robert and Jill have both submitted their 40-hour mediation training exam and are now officially in the practicum!



#### **Programs Snapshot**

The resolution teams supporting family, small claims, workplace and housing mediation cases continue to face high demand, as we reported last month. Eviction prevention clinics are still happening twice per month and remain full. Housing-related calls continue to dominate the phone lines. With the expiration of the repayment plan component of ERPP 4/30, we are preparing for a possible uptick in need as of May 1 and continuing for the two months leading into sunset. We remain hopeful that at least one of the two volunteers currently considering joining the conciliator pool will decide to do so, so that we can improve our phone staffing and call-back turnaround time.

The Training Team is adjusting to Jill fully stepping into her role as Charlotte finishes her transition out of the role. A very full training calendar will keep Jill and Leah quite busy in the months to come, along with some contract support from other members of the training team. We are preparing to post for the one open position within that department.

On the facilitation front, a long-term facilitation project is underway, which is a noted area of expansion in revenue generation and program delivery for this year.

#### **Revenue News**

We continue to be grateful to our sustaining and our leadership circle investors (64 and 35, respectively). These folks make up an important piece of our sustainable funding month to month and year to year. As we proceed through 2023, we will continue to focus on bringing more mid-tier donors up into higher realms of the pyramid while also bringing in more business supporters that are also part of the year over year sustainability.

Remember that pre-announcement of a grant award? Turns out our contact spoke too soon and then, so did I! We did not receive the grant. Nevertheless, we persevere and are submitting a national proposal in the coming weeks.

#### **Staffing & Volunteer Updates**



You will recall from last month that our lead resolution specialist Mattie Leighton was transitioning out of her role, which has happened. As we prepare for the sunset of the ERPP program in June, we are under continuous review of the best staffing structure and role focus for that entire team, and currently do not plan to hire for any housing positions. Statewide program transition funding will be a large determiner of whether staff need to be let go as of July 1.

#### **Statewide Frame**

Our core services (capacity) and housing stability funding requests are still moving forward, as indicated in prior updates. Through our lobbyists, we are checking in with fiscal staff to ensure that there are no questions or concerns as we approach final weeks of session. The state's revenue forecast is expected to be out on 3/20 and anecdotally is not as flush as 2022. On 3/21, the ResWA Legislative Committee will be discussing what is revealed in that forecast and where/how to modify our strategy going forward. That same week, as a result of our strategy updates, we will share a message and a process for centers to use in activating networks locally, in support of our funding. Last week, an 11<sup>th</sup> hour request was made for congressionally directed funding in support of transitioning our housing work. It is a bit of a long shot, but it was deemed worth the effort.