



SEEDS

Community Resolution Center

Cultivate, Transform, Give!

Become a SEEDS
Circle Member





SEEDS provides Professional Conflict Resolution Services throughout the Bay Area

By becoming a *Circle Member*, you can help SEEDS expand its vision of excellence, develop new programs and projects, turn new ideas into reality and find innovative ways of serving you better.

Today, I'm proud to say that SEEDS Community Resolution Center continues to uphold that vision for the greater good of our entire community, striving to cultivate common ground, restore relationships, resolve disputes, and capture the best of the human spirit.

In order to do such an incredible job of meeting the conflict resolution, restorative practice and training needs of our clients, this trusted community resource has long depended on the generosity of others.

Indeed, private support is what makes it possible for us all to access the highest-quality services: our respected Community Mediation program, Small Claims and Civil Harassment Court Mediation program, and our 40 Hour

Mediation Certification Training. Much-loved programs like our Restorative Justice in School program create a safe-haven for our children and enrich their lives.

As the Executive Director of SEEDS, I have the privilege each year of bringing together enlightened people to support the vital work of this amazing community resolution center – one of only a few remaining conflict resolution voices in the Bay Area.

I consider you to be one of those special individuals, someone who understands that, in an age of growing conflict and discord, the role of a local community resolution center has become vital.



SEEDS Volunteers

“Volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization. We are a ‘for the people by the people’ team” – Mattie Robertson, *Court Mediation Program Manager*

Sustaining this trusted source for peace, dialogue, and professional educational programming largely rests in the hands of people like you.

Today, it gives me great pleasure to extend to you my personal invitation to become one of SEEDS’ newest *Circle Members*.

As a new *Circle Member*, you will be part of a distinguished group designed to ensure a bright future for SEEDS Community Resolution Center. *Circle* membership entitles you to receive a number of exclusive benefits and privileges, including invitations to special events and receptions, personal member luncheons and insider information updates. You will also be recognized on our website, in our annual report and other publications for your outstanding level of giving.

To be sure, your investment and involvement at any *Circle Member* level will produce rich restorative and educational rewards for years to come.

By accepting this special invitation, you will be helping to create a lasting legacy of quality services that speaks to your values. When you take your place amid the ranks of the *Circle Members*, your partnership will effectively strengthen SEEDS’ efforts to ensure that our community forever remains a place where peace and equity can flourish.

Leadership Circle members are major investors in and ambassadors for SEEDS. By joining them, you too, can help enable SEEDS to expand its vision of excellence, develop new programs and projects, turn new ideas into reality and find innovative ways of serving you better.

I do hope that you’ll choose to join this dynamic group of *Circle* members with your generous contribution today. I have enclosed additional information about the *Circle Memberships*, along with a detailed listing of benefits and your membership acceptance form.

Warmest regards,

Jeffrey Sloan, Executive Director

“For the past two years I have had the privilege and good fortune to work closely with SEEDS mediators in my courtroom. They have assisted me, and other judicial officers, in both small claims cases and in civil harassment cases. In this era of reduced court funding we would be hard pressed to meet our obligations to the public without their assistance. I cannot speak highly enough of the wonderful people connected with SEEDS nor can I adequately convey what a tremendous asset they are to our court.”

*Thomas A. Rasch
Commissioner
Alameda County Superior Court*

“I highly recommend the SEEDS Restorative Justice In Schools training for anyone who wants to practice RJ, and gain a thorough understanding of why it is necessary we implement this philosophy in our schools, justice system and community now.”

*David Yusem
Program Manager, Restorative Justice
Family, Schools, & Community Partnerships
Oakland Unified School District*

Comments from our Mediation Training students:

“This class changed my life and the way that I look at everything. I am now in a graduate program studying conflict and I use the skills I gained in this class daily. I plan to work in the conflict resolution field and because of this training not only has my professional life changed for the better, my personal relationships have improved and my family relationships have improved.”

“The training role plays are fantastic. The coaching was excellent. The opportunity to experience the process and watch people moves from positional to open was very powerful.”

“Mediators set a safe and positive space and expressed positive expectations for ‘as many agreements as work for both of you’. Many positive comments, especially in the beginning, such as ‘thank you for patient listening’ that really helped me learn.”

“I am really enjoying the tone and content of these classes - they go by very quickly and are both informationally dense and fun”

“I loved the class and looked forward to it every week. It was so well facilitated and I appreciated the breadth and depth of experience brought to the class by the instructors and coaches.”

“Loved this training and learned so much! Trainers and coaches were great.”

“This training was genuinely transformational for me. I now see conflict in a very different way than I did at the beginning.”

“The training was excellent. I’ve learned so much and I appreciate the work of all the coaches.”



SEEDS: A Legacy of Conflict Transformation and Peace building

“I don’t believe that we are incapable of resolving conflict or choose not to find solutions. I simply think we have forgotten how.”

-Jeff Sloan
SEEDS Executive Director

It doesn’t take a television news report or a radio headline to remind us that we are surrounded by people in conflict. From our polarized politics and racial injustice, to economic inequality and family disputes, it would appear that our communities, our nation, and our world are cultivating a culture of conflict. In pursuit of that ever-elusive ideal of happiness, it can seem like our collective values are shifting from community, generosity and empathy to those of self-interest, personal achievement, and possession. This value shift is generating greater impatience, more intolerance, less compassion and a growing experience of isolation and fear.

And isolation and fear breed conflict.

I don’t believe that we are incapable of resolving conflict or choose not to find solutions. I simply think that we have forgotten how.

For over 30 years, SEEDS Community Resolution Center has provided the “how” to thousands of Alameda County residents, businesses, city departments and agencies. Through transformative conflict resolution services such as mediation, facilitation and restorative justice, our amazing volunteers and staff have assisted thousands of people in finding lasting and effective resolution to their conflicts and disputes.

SEEDS offers opportunities to all members of our community to learn how effective communication, de-escalation, and mediation can improve their relationships and develop important professional skills through their training courses and workshops.

SEEDS Proudly Serves These Community Leaders

Over the past few years SEEDS has been privileged to provide services to and support so many amazing partner organizations and agencies throughout the Bay Area. The impact and effectiveness of our work is starting to move beyond Alameda County and we are so proud to begin relationships with Napa Valley Unified School District, Marin County Children and Family Services, and Pittsburg Unified School District.

These partnerships are true examples of “helping people who help people.” Public education, mental

health, law enforcement, affordable housing, and social work are vocations where conflict can interfere with effective and efficient service. With your *Circle Membership* we can continue to provide the much needed conflict resolution, facilitation and training services at a remarkably low cost.

Support us in supporting them!

Become a SEEDS Circle Member today!



Invest in Peaceful Communities, Safe Schools, and Healthy Workplaces. Become a Member Today!



Basic Membership

With your membership of \$60 a year, or \$5 a month, benefits include:

- 10% discount on **40 - Hour Mediation Certification** training (a \$68 savings)
- Quarterly e-newsletter
- A SEEDS mug



Sowers Circle

With your membership of \$120 a year, or \$10 a month, benefits include:

- 10% discount on **40 - Hour Mediation Certification** training (a \$68 savings)
- Discounts on SEEDS' **Advanced Mediation Trainings**
- Quarterly e-newsletter
- Invitation to summer and winter networking events
- A SEEDS mug



Growers Circle

With your membership of \$240 a year, or \$20 a month, receive all the above benefits, plus:

- Choice of one free Conflict Resolution Clinic
- Recognition on website and annual event materials
- A SEEDS T-Shirt



Harvesters Circle

With your membership of \$480 a year, or \$40 a month, receive all of the above benefits, plus:

- Choice of two free Conflict Resolution Clinics
- Invitation to Appreciation Brunch hosted by the Executive Director and Board of Directors



Cultivators Circle

With your membership of \$720 a year, or \$60 a month receive all of the above benefits, plus:

- 50% off of a 40 Hour Mediation Certification training for yourself or another (a \$350 savings)



Visionary's Circle

With your membership of \$1,000 and over, receive all of the above benefits, plus:

- 50% off of a 40 Hour Mediation Certification training for yourself or another (a \$350 savings)
- 5 Complimentary Tickets to our annual Cultivating Common Ground event



SEEDS Community Resolution

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