

## **Community Dispute Resolution (CDR)**

*Cultivating responsibility for peaceful resolution of disputes.*

CDR's mission for the Central Susquehanna region is to promote a positive environment through education, training, and the resolution of conflicts for our citizens. CDR seeks to cultivate respect for one another, constructive communication and responsibility for peaceful resolution of disputes.

The trained volunteer mediators of CDR can help with the following kinds of disputes:

- neighborhood
- racial and cultural
- landlord and tenant
- employee and employer
- customer and business
- youth-related individual and group
- public policy
- environmental
- town and gown

A non-profit organization, CDR requests donations for mediation services. However, no persons are refused mediation services due to inability to pay. CDR accepts referrals from attorneys, police, community agencies and groups. Individuals may self-refer also.

Parties needing mediation services or requesting information are encouraged to call the voice mail of CDR at 570-784-7053, extension 311, and leave a message. All CDR contacts are strictly confidential.

## **Bloomsburg Community-Police Response Team**

*Resolving police-community conflict before it escalates*

Formed in late 2004, the team provides a place for citizens to go if they perceive discrimination or unfair treatment by police following incidents that occur in Bloomsburg or Columbia and Montour counties.

The team addresses:

- African American and Latino community concerns
- homophobia
- religious discrimination
- ethnic bigotry
- neighborhood disputes
- town-university or student issues

The team never interferes with a police officer's handling of an incident but is responsible for notifying the Mayor or Police Chief of any indication of tension.

The team was instrumental in the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding among the University-Community Task Force on Racial Equity, Community Dispute Resolution, Bloomsburg University, and the Bloomsburg Police Department which calls for "no racial profiling."

Citizens may report any indication of community-police tension or incident by calling 570-784-7053, Extension 311 and leaving a voice mail message. A member of the Response Team will return the call as soon as possible.

## **BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY - COMMUNITY TASK FORCE ON RACIAL EQUITY**



**TASK FORCE TRAINERS  
COMMUNITY  
DISPUTE RESOLUTION  
BLOOMSBURG COMMUNITY  
POLICE RESPONSE TEAM**

**BLOOMSBURG  
A No Place for Hate® Community**

## The Bloomsburg University - Community Task Force on Racial Equity

*Coming together to make a more inclusive community*

Established in 1992, the Task Force meets monthly to:

- identify and examine issues of discrimination
- create a comfortable and safe community for all
- sponsor, plan, and participate in programs and events to encourage inclusion
- discuss issues of discrimination if they arise in the community
- work toward solutions



*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. poster contest winners*



*Berwick High School Making Connections Group*

Recent activities include:

- Sponsoring the Diversity Conference for local high school students, now in its fourth year
- Martin Luther King Jr. Community Fellowship Dinner
- Local events and forums
- School programs
- Annual poster contest

The Task Force meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:00 PM at Russell's Restaurant in downtown Bloomsburg. Meetings focus on long-term projects for community change, as well as current issues and conflicts in the community.

*Meetings are open to all. We welcome your participation and invite you to join us. If you have an issue you would like to discuss with us, come to a meeting, or call 570-389-5383.*

## Task Force Trainers

*Learning to appreciate the differences in all of us*

The Task Force Trainers specialize in developing and presenting group trainings in order to raise awareness and further the goals of the task force. We are all volunteers who have intensive training in conducting workshops.

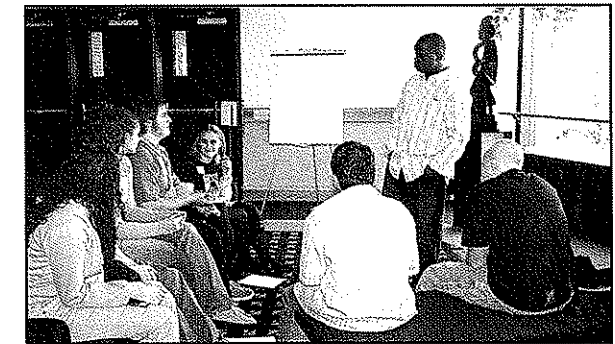
Established in 1994, the Task Force Trainers have:

- conducted over a thousand hours of training
- trained over 12,000 people
- conducted workshops for people in business, schools, civic and church groups, and social service agencies

Diversity training focuses on:

- appreciating our differences
- building the skills necessary to interact with and support the diverse people around us
- addressing issues of race, gender, religion, physical/mental ability, sexual identity, and physical appearance.

For more information, or to schedule a training with your group, call 570-389-5383.



*Facilitating a small group at the Diversity Conference*