

30 West State Street
Colonial Plaza, 2nd Floor
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Prospective Board Member Fact Sheet

The Board of Directors and Administration of ACCORD, A Center for Dispute Resolution, Inc. wish to thank you for considering membership on the ACCORD Board of Directors. We recognize that making the decision to join a non-profit board is a serious commitment. We have prepared this fact sheet to provide an overview of both agency and board functions. We invite you to contact any of us for additional information or to submit your name for nomination for board membership: Kacey Ellsworth, Executive Director, 724-5153 or kaceye@accordny.com; or Dawn Osborne-Adams, Board Development Committee Chair, 777-2388 or dosborne@binghamton.edu.

The Agency: ACCORD, A Center for Dispute Resolution, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency providing mediation and other alternative dispute resolution services to Broome and Tioga Counties. ACCORD has been serving Broome County since 1982 and Tioga County since 1985. The Voices for Children / CASA Program, which advocates for children in foster care due to allegations of abuse or neglect, merged with ACCORD in 1998. ACCORD provides these valuable services predominantly through a roster of highly trained volunteers.

ACCORD Mission: ACCORD promotes peaceful alternatives to conflict through mediation and other dispute resolution services, training, and advocacy.

ACCORD Goals: Through the service of trained volunteers and staff, ACCORD seeks to:

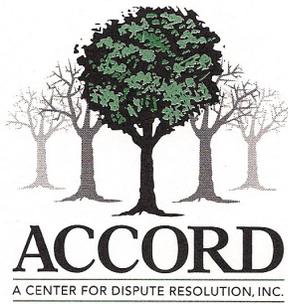
- Provide individuals, families, and organizations with constructive ways to resolve conflict through communication
- Promote safe and stable living environments for children at risk of abuse and neglect
- Present youth with decision-making skills and positive alternatives to violence
- Broaden community understanding and acceptance of alternative dispute resolution

The Board: ACCORD's Board of Directors is a governing board with the fiduciary responsibility of overseeing the agency operation, developing policy and approving procedures, as well as hiring and supervising the Executive Director. Board members serve three-year terms with a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms. The Board currently meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8:00 AM with meetings usually lasting about 1.5 hours.

Expectations: Each board member is expected to:

- Attend monthly board meetings;
- Participate in at least one standing committee (Personnel, Resource Development, and Nominating) or other ad hoc committees, such as Strategic Planning or Program. Most committees meet monthly throughout the

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year.

- Support agency events and fund raising activities by way of dollars and/or time. Efforts can include, but are not limited to, planning, attendance, solicitation of donors, outreach and marketing.
- Contribute to the agency's annual Appeal campaign. There is no required level of financial contribution for membership, though board members are expected to contribute to the extent possible.

Nominees: The Board is seeking individuals who are interested in the peaceful resolution of conflict in our community and are willing to devote their time, energy, and talents to help guide, direct, and work with this active agency in achieving its mission. We are especially in need of board members with expertise, or a strong interest, in resource development.

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