



In 2026, the AAA-ICDR Foundation proudly celebrates its 10th anniversary, marking ten years of promoting access to alternative dispute resolution worldwide. We are sincerely thankful to our supporters, partners, and donors whose ongoing dedication has made this work possible. As we reflect on this milestone, we are pleased to highlight recent activities that show the Foundation's continued impact.


New Episode

Featuring



Michelle Zaremba
 Director,
 Dayton Mediation Center



Aaron Primm
 Coordinator,
 Mediation Response Unit



Dr. Jeanne Zimmer
 PhD, Program Evaluation
 and Conflict Management

In Episode 4 of the AAA-ICDR Foundation Podcast, Foundation Executive Director Tracey Frisch speaks with Michelle Zaremba, executive director of the Dayton Mediation Center; Aaron Primm, coordinator of the Mediation Response Unit; and Dr. Jeanne Zimmer, evaluator, about their experiences and perspectives on the Dayton Mediation Response Unit (MRU).

The MRU is an alternative response program that dispatches trained mediators to respond to lower emergency 911 and police calls in the City of Dayton. Since 2022, the Foundation has provided funding for the creation and expansion of the MRU, plus professional evaluation and the creation of an implementation guide for other communities.

Tune in to this episode to learn about the newly released evaluation and how field mediation is reshaping public safety, what happens during an MRU call, and the indicators demonstrating that this approach is working in Dayton, Ohio.

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Celebrating International Women's Day

In recognition of International Women's Day, the Foundation honors the extraordinary leadership of:

Frances Kellor, American Arbitration Association® (AAA®) Founder

Bridget McCormack, AAA President and CEO

Edna Sussman, AAA-ICDR Foundation Board First Chair



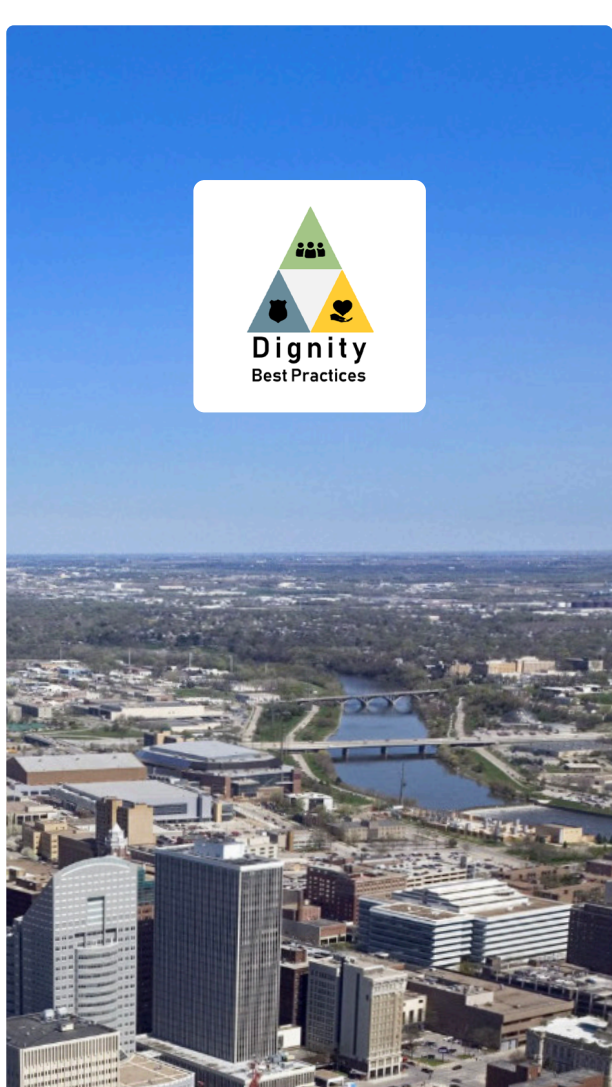
Through their vision, leadership, and innovation, the AAA and the AAA-ICDR Foundation continue to thrive and support the global expansion of alternative dispute resolution. A special thanks to Edna Sussman, as the Foundation's first chair, and to all founding members, especially India Johnson, former president and CEO of the AAA, for their visionary leadership in establishing the AAA-ICDR Foundation.

New Grants

The AAA-ICDR Foundation is pleased to announce two new grants supporting the Foundation's priority focus area, Integrating Mediation into Crisis Response Systems.

Advancing the Field of Alternative Response Conference: \$50,000 grant to sponsor the conference and organize a featured panel highlighting the Dayton Mediation Response Unit and its partnership with the AAA-ICDR Foundation.

Dayton Mediation Response Unit Documentary: \$40,590 grant to support the production of short documentary on the MRU.



Announcement of New Field Mediation Sites

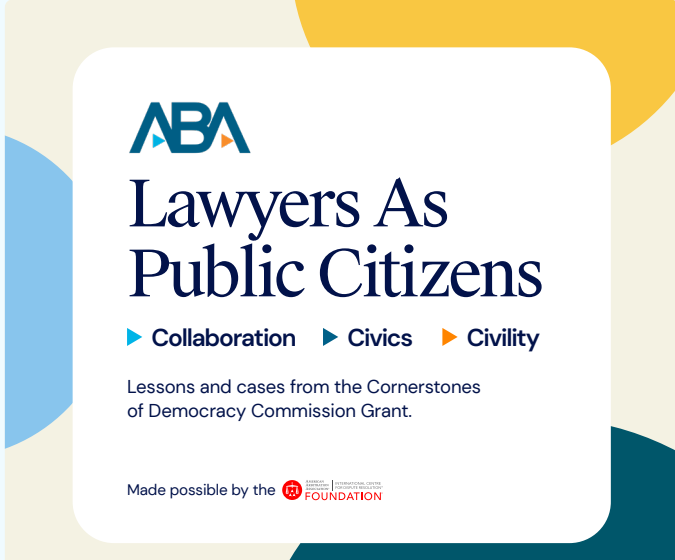
As part of the Foundation's focus on Integrating Mediation into Crisis Response Systems, two new sites have been selected to receive technical assistance to develop mediation alternative crisis response models in their communities.

This support is provided through the Foundation's grant to Dignity Best Practices (DBP). DBP will partner with the City of Chicago as a pilot site to integrate mediation into the CARE program, and work with Johnson County and the City of Iowa City to expand field mediation services in those communities.

ABA Report: "Lawyer as Public Citizen"

The Foundation is proud to share a grant-funded report by the American Bar Association's Cornerstones Commission, "Lawyer as Public Citizen: Collaboration, Civics and Civility."

The report explores how lawyers can help restore trust in institutions and reinforce civil liberties and democratic values through sustained community partnerships. The report is the result of a Foundation grant supporting efforts to restore productive public discourse on critical issues, leveraging the expertise and leadership of state and local bars to develop frameworks for community conversations that strengthen democracy.



Support the Foundation's Mission

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 120 Broadway, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10271, (212) 716-5800
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