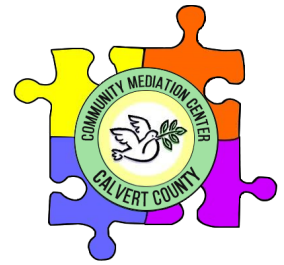


# COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTER OF CALVERT REFLECTIONS



FALL/WINTER 2024

## Another Year of Serving Our Community

2024 has been a busy year for CMCC! We welcomed a new class of volunteer mediators, received a grant to provide restorative practices in Calvert County Public Schools, hired new staff, and developed new programs to meet the needs of individuals, families, youth, and organizations in our county. On top of that, we continued to provide no-cost mediation services to empower people to resolve their conflicts in their own ways. 2025 will bring some changes to our Center, as our Executive Director, Sheri Tardio, is retiring. We will be welcoming LaVerne Day, a longtime volunteer mediator, to the role of Executive Director beginning in January!

## Goodbyes and Hellos

Sheri Tardio began her career with CMCC as a volunteer mediator in 2012. She soon became the Office Manager, then Director of Operations, and finally, Executive Director. Under her leadership, CMCC grew its programs to include restorative practices, conflict coaching, conflict resolution for recovery, Triple P Parenting program, and peer mentor and mediation training. Sheri plans to spend her time working on her art and will continue to volunteer for CMCC.



*Besties, Sheri and LaVerne!*

LaVerne Day comes to CMCC with a strong background in mediation, restorative practices, facilitation, training, and business. She has been a valued member of the CMCC team for years. With her wealth of experience and dedication to community service, LaVerne will be a strong leader to continue CMCC's mission.

**"Peace is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to cope with it."**  
— Mahatma Gandhi

### CMCC Partners with CCPS

Thanks to a grant from the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports, CMCC was able to hire a new staff member to provide mediation, classroom circles, community conferencing, and conflict resolution education to students in CCPS. These services are at no cost to the schools. These services are available at all CCPS schools, from elementary to high school! We are excited to be able to support CCPS students with peaceful conflict resolution practices.

### What is Conflict Coaching?

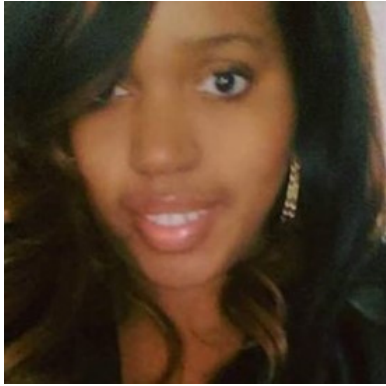
Conflict coaching is a process in which a trained mediator works one-on-one with an individual to support them in resolving an issue or conflict. Conflict coaching can be done as a stand-alone service, prior to mediation, or after mediation to process the outcome. Coaching helps people develop the skills needed to resolve conflicts peacefully and constructively. CMCC provides this service for both adults and youth. Conflict coaching empowers youth to handle disputes at school and home, fostering a more harmonious and supportive environment.

Check out our website: [www.calvert-mediation.org](http://www.calvert-mediation.org)

## MEET OUR STAFF

CMCC is fortunate to have dedicated, compassionate, and professional staff to support our mission. If you call us to ask about services or visit us at an outreach event, you may meet one of these awesome folks!

### Meet LaStar, Intake and Support Coordinator

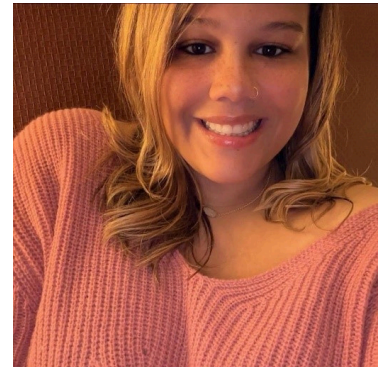


As the Intake and Support Coordinator, I'm here to be a welcoming first point of contact for those seeking support with mediation. I understand that reaching out can be a big step, and I'm committed to making the process as smooth and reassuring as possible. With a background in psychology, I take time to assess each individual's unique needs and connect them with the resources that will best support their journey. I strive to help participants feel comfortable and empowered from the very beginning. As a strong believer in mental health advocacy, I ensure they feel fully supported and understood.

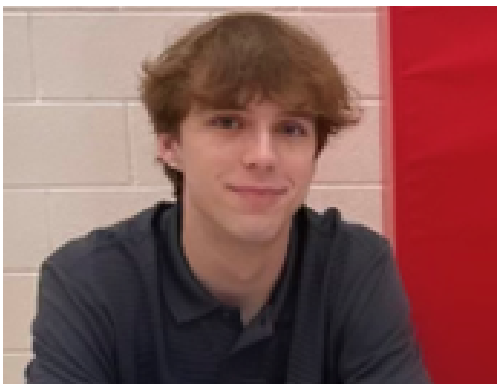
In my role, I also make participants aware of the various support programs our mediation center offers and provide guidance on how to access them. I conduct a thorough assessment with each participant to carefully match them with a mediator who is best suited to their specific needs. I look forward to being there for each person, helping them feel valued, prepared, and confident as they move forward on their path to growth and resolution.

### Meet Cory, Restorative Practices Provider

Hi there! I'm Cory Turner, and I'm thrilled to introduce myself as CMCC's Restorative Practice Provider. In my role, I have the privilege of working with Calvert County Public Schools and the local Boys and Girls Club, where I help foster a peaceful and supportive environment for our youth. As a certified Youth Conflict Coach, I am passionate about guiding children through conflict resolution, teaching them that not all conflicts are negative and that they can be opportunities for growth and understanding. When I'm not mediating or hosting circle time with Casey, you can find me cheering on my two kids from the sidelines at their sporting events, exploring local museums, or embarking on new adventures with them. I love being involved in my community and am dedicated to helping our youth develop the skills they need to navigate conflicts constructively. It's an honor to be part of such a supportive and dynamic team at CMCC, and I look forward to continuing to make a positive impact in our community.



### Meet Casey, Marketing and Outreach



Hi, I'm Casey! I handle social media and marketing at CMCC, focusing on sharing what we do and connecting with our community. My goal is to bring our mission to life online by creating content that showcases our services, sharing insights, and expanding our outreach. In my role, I also facilitate classroom circles at local elementary schools, where I guide students in open discussions on various different topics. It's incredibly rewarding to see our impact both online and in person, and I'm more than grateful to be part of this wonderful team!

Outside of work, I'm a skateboarder at heart, and I love hitting the local parks whenever I can. I'm also a big fan of traveling (though I don't get to do it as much as I'd like!) and spending time with friends and family. Whether it's exploring new places or just hanging out, these experiences are ones I try to value as much as I can.