

Who Can Refer People to

Common Ground?

- Judges.
- Individuals.
- Friends.
- Families.
- Schools.
- Neighbors.
- Law Enforcement Agencies.
- Court Personnel.
- Attorneys.
- Public & Private Agencies.
- Clergy.
- District Attorneys.

You don't need "a referral" to for mediation— simply give us a call.

Tel: (518) 943-0523

info@commongroundinc.org

www.commongroundinc.org

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A Place to Settle Differences

11 William Street
Catskill, NY 12414



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Common Ground Dispute Resolution, Inc.

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What is Common Ground?

Common Ground is a not-for-profit corporation under contract with New York State to provide dispute resolution services to the community.

Common Ground provides trained mediators who work to resolve the differences between two or more participants on issues including family, housing, business, workplace, school, and neighbor disputes.

Agreements reached are mutually satisfactory and may be made legally binding and court enforceable.

The mediation process is informal, private, confidential, and voluntary.

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What Issues Can Come to Mediation?

- Assault.
- New & Used Car Lemon Law Complaints.
- Agricultural Disputes.
- Breach of Contract.
- Consumer/Merchant Disputes.
- Employer/Employee Disputes.
- Family Problems.
- Bad Checks.
- Harassment.
- Interpersonal Disputes.
- Neighbor/Neighbor Disputes.
- Small Claims.
- Noise.
- Landlord/Tenant Disputes.
- School Problems (Fights, Truancy, Behavior Issues).
- Special Education Issues.
- Selected Felonies.
- Restitution for Damages.
- Custody/Visitation.
- Parenting Time/Access.
- Elder Issues.

What is Mediation?

Mediation is a private, voluntary, and confidential meeting between you the person with whom you are having a dispute. A **mediator** is trained to be *neutral* and doesn't know either of you. He or she helps you talk to each other so that you can reach an agreement *that you both can live with*.

No one will force you into an agreement. Agreements may be legally binding and enforceable in a court of law.

Mediation is an appropriate alternative to the traditional methods of resolving every-day disputes. *It is not recommended in situations involving domestic violence, or where there are allegations of child abuse or neglect.*

How to Schedule a Mediation:

Call, e-mail, or stop by our office. A member of our staff will talk with you and determine if mediation is appropriate for your situation. With your permission, we will contact the other party to see if he or she is interested in resolving the dispute through mediation. Once we have made contact with both parties, we can schedule a mediation session within two weeks.