



Exciting developments during the second quarter of 2023 include: a Special Initiative Grant, a new member of the Board, a stunning Annual Report, a presentation on trauma-informed mediation for Ukrainians, and more!



Foundation Funds Mediation Response Unit Expansion With Special Initiative Funds

During its Annual Meeting in May, the AAA-ICDR Foundation Board awarded a \$250,000 Special Initiative Grant to expand Dayton Ohio's successful Mediation Response Unit (MRU) program. This grant builds on \$150,000 provided by the Foundation through its 2022 Annual Grant Cycle for the creation of the MRU.

The MRU was formulated through police reform initiatives after the murder of George Floyd in 2020. The MRU is an alternative emergency response program that dispatches trained mediators to respond to lower emergent 911/police calls for the City of Dayton. Since May 23, 2022, the MRU has responded to 1,500 calls for service in the Dayton community.

For additional information, please see the [Grant Announcement](#).

The Foundation Issues 2022 Annual Report



The Foundation issued its 2022 Annual Report. The report includes a tribute to India Johnson, who established the Foundation during her tenure as President and CEO of the AAA-ICDR, which ended in January. India will continue her leadership and support of our mission as Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors. The Annual Report highlights key aspects of granting and fundraising in 2022, focused on the Foundation's priority areas. Take a look at the stunning Annual Report [here](#).



AAA-ICDR President and CEO Bridget M. McCormack Joins the Foundation Board

Bridget M. McCormack, President and CEO of the AAA-ICDR, joined the Board of Directors of the AAA-ICDR Foundation. “Joining the AAA-ICDR Foundation Board is an honor—a meaningful opportunity to advance the Foundation’s vital work supporting the prevention and resolution of conflicts by expanding access to alternative dispute resolution,” she said. “I am thrilled to be a part of an organization that is making a concrete difference for people and their communities.” Learn more about the Foundation’s leadership [here](#).

Presentation in New York By Foundation Grantee Mediators Beyond Borders International



Ukrainian social psychologist Dr. Iryna Eihelson gave a presentation at the AAA’s New York offices on the importance of trauma-informed practices when working with people affected by humanitarian crises. In 2022, the AAA-ICDR Foundation, responding to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and ensuing humanitarian crisis, provided a Rapid Response Grant to Mediators Beyond Borders International to work in partnership with the National Association of Mediators of Ukraine on trauma awareness for mediators and dialogue facilitators. Dr. Eihelson’s presentation was recorded and can be viewed [here](#).



Foundation 2024 Annual Grant Cycle Opens

On June 9, the Foundation launched the process for the next round of Annual Grants, seeking proposals for between \$50,000 and \$250,000 for programs utilizing alternative dispute resolution to address any of the Foundation’s priorities. Initial proposals are due by September 8, 2023. After an initial review, a limited number of organizations will be invited to submit a detailed proposal for funding consideration. For more information on the grant program, application process, and more see the [Grants Announcement](#).

AAA-ICDR Staff Attend New York State “Unity Summit” Event Convened by Governor Hochul



In 2023, the Foundation provided a \$250,000 grant to the New York State Unified Court System to utilize the expertise of Community Dispute Resolution Centers in restorative justice and facilitation to assist the NYS Division of Human Rights in the development of ten regional Hate and Bias Prevention Councils, a project kicked off at the Unity Summit. Convened by New York Governor Kathy Hochul, the Unity Summit was held at John Jay College in Manhattan on May 10, 2023. Three AAA-ICDR staff were invited to attend.

Funding for the Foundation

The Foundation is funded primarily by the AAA-ICDR and its Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators. Last year, the AAA-ICDR contributed over \$1.7 million to the Foundation, in monetary and in-kind contributions. AAA-ICDR Arbitrators and Mediators contributed over \$600,000 by opting to donate half their panel fees and beyond. The Foundation greatly appreciates the ongoing, generous support of the AAA-ICDR, and the AAA-ICDR Panel. Donors who contribute at the \$1,000 or \$2,000 levels are recognized as Leadership Donors and Chair’s Circle Donors, respectively. To make a contribution, please visit the [Donate](#) page on the Foundation’s website.

Thank You for Your Support.

Sincerely,
The AAA-ICDR Foundation Board of Directors

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