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1. **THE ORGANISATION**

Community Mediation Works emerged as a practical response to conflict and anti-social behaviour in the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown area. It sought an effective remedy to violence and anti-social behaviour that plagued community life – that remedy was mediation. This conviction arose from work done by the Mountwood-Fitzgerald Park Welfare Rights Committee to develop initiatives that would empower local people to create a more just environment for themselves, their families and their community. The level of conflict in the community and the lack of strategies to creatively transform that conflict, and thus harnessing its energy towards rebuilding the community, was worthy of attention. The outcome was Community Mediation Works - a process where an impartial facilitator supports and works with persons and groups in conflict to creatively approach and transform that conflict by developing their own communication and negotiation abilities and learning how to respect and work with different or opposing views. The organisation’s mission is to promote peace in communities through facilitating the resolution of conflict and effecting transformative change by empowering residents with the capacity to address and resolve conflict.

Although the core service we provide is mediation, we understand that violence and conflict are complex concepts and we have spearheaded complimentary initiatives that address systemic causes of violence. Some of this work includes

* Reports published and research conducted on causes and experiences of conflict in working class communities
* Youth work addressing anger management
* Education on restorative justice

***“our objective is to promote peace in communities and to create a space where the spirit of safety and dialogue can result in practical changes which enhance people’s quality of life and their ability to, on a personal level and collectively, intervene in their world more effectively”***