

# EAST CENTRAL PROGRAM

*The latest news and updates from Early Settlement Mediation-EC*



## IMPORTANT DATES:

**OFFICE CLOSED- MAY  
27, 2024 FOR  
MEMORIAL DAY**

**JC OUT OF OFFICE-  
JUNE 10-14, 2024 ON  
ANNUAL LEAVE**

**FAMILY DIVORCE  
TRAINING- SUMMER  
2024- DATE TBD**



**Patty Johnson**

Volunteer of the Month

## Volunteer of the Month- Patty Johnson

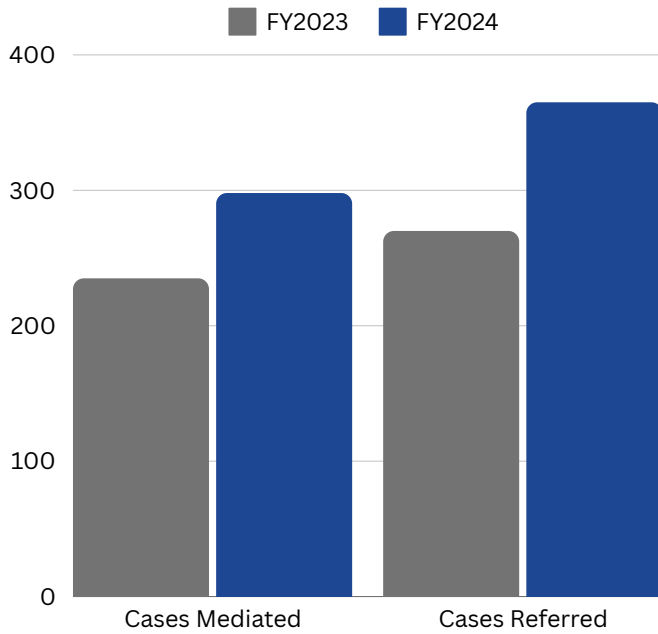
*by Jorjia Cash, Director*

Patty Johnson is our volunteer mediator of the Month for May 2024. Patty is a long-time mediator. I believe Patty is the longest volunteer mediator for the East Central Program! Fun fact about Patty- she is one of the volunteers I went to watch when I was trying to learn how to be a mediator over 7 years ago! She is certified in Basic and Family/Divorce Mediation.

Patty resides at the edge of Pottawatomie County, but mostly volunteers in Garvin County. Patty typically takes about one mediation per month. She has volunteered over 70 hours since the Pandemic in 2020. It's difficult to calculate her exact volunteer time, because she has been a volunteer mediator, longer than I have been the director of this program!

Patty has been a great advocate for this program, and I appreciate all the effort she puts in!

On behalf of Early Settlement Mediation's East Central Program, I want to thank Patty for being a great volunteer mediator. We appreciate your willingness to make your community more peaceful!



## Mediation Stats FY 2024:

- **130 Basic Referrals**
  - 125 Mediated
- **212 Family/Divorce Referrals**
  - 152 Mediated
  - 152 Sessions
- **19 Permanency Referrals**
  - 18 Mediated
- **4 Guardianship Referral**
  - 3 Mediated

**TOTAL: 365 Referrals**  
298 Cases Mediated

\*These numbers are for July 2023 - April 2024

## Agreement Info:

- **125 Basic Cases Mediated**
  - 70 Agreements
- **152 Family Cases Mediated**
  - 103 Agreements
- **18 Permanency Cases Mediated**
  - 13 Agreements
- **3 Guardianship Cases Mediated**
  - 3 Agreements

**TOTAL: 298 Cases Mediated**  
189 Agreements

\*Agreements are cases that ended in full or partial agreement. Numbers are for July 2023 -May 2024



# Volunteer Mediator Conference 2024





# Volunteer of the Year- East Central Program Mike Hawkins

*by Jorjia Cash, Director*

Mike has been a Volunteer Mediator since December 2020. Mike came to the program during the pandemic year, and attended basic training virtually. Mike first learned about Early Settlement Mediation through one of our volunteer mediators, the late Jay Scott Brown. Mike mostly volunteers in the Pottawatomie County area, but has assisted Seminole County from time to time.

Mike attended the Family/Divorce mediation training in Norman, Oklahoma in the Summer of 2022. He immediately jumped into mediating family matters and has been doing a wonderful job. His friendly demeanor and patience with those in conflict has enabled him to be a successful mediator. Of the 21 cases he has mediated in 2024 (July 2023 – March 2024) - only five did not result in an agreement.

Mike has been extremely flexible working with our program, and has never hesitated to take advantage of a mediation opportunity. He often has told the program office that he worries about taking too many cases from other volunteers. He’s been the volunteer of month for the East Central Program several times, most recently in July of 2023.

Mike resides in Shawnee, Oklahoma with his wife, Kay. On top of being a mediator, Mike likes to build furniture and props for the Shawnee Little Theatre. He has 8 grand children located in Tennessee, Central Oklahoma and Southern Texas. Thank you for being such a great volunteer mediator!

