

TAP NEWS

February Announcements

- Blackburn Middle School has kicked off spring training for the year. We look forward to welcoming more TAP mediators into the community.
- Get up to 15 mediations, formal or informal, by the week after spring break for a special treat!



SPOTLIGHT ON SUMMIT

We had a great time at the Summit, TAP and Beyond: Taking Conflict Resolution Beyond the Limits of the Classroom, with the middle school mediators on January 14th and the high school mediators on January 15th.

Mediators learned the history of COFO (Council of Federated Organizations) and participated in workshops entitled Understanding Conflict and Communication Conflict. They then acted out both informal and formal roleplays, heard from guest speakers from Refill Cafe, and ended by creating goals for the rest of the year. Thank you to all the wonderful JPS (Jackson Public School) and MASD (Mississippi Achievement School District) sites!





STRATEGY OF THE MONTH

Feelings Bank



It's a month of emotions with Valentine's Day just around the corner. As a mediator, you include feeling words in the impact statements you create, and helping disputants identify the right feeling words is crucial. If you need a new pool of emotion words, check out the Feelings Bank on page 130 of your TAP Workbook.

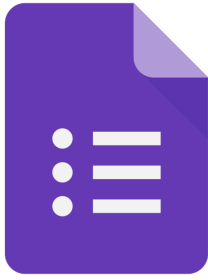
TAP Hoodie

Be like Rachel and sport a TAP hoodie to keep warm during winter. Hoodies are available for \$26. Reach out to your Site Coordinator to purchase one.



LOG YOUR MEDIATIONS

Google Form Makes Logging Easier



Mediators and Site Coordinators, click the link below to access a Google Form to quickly and easily log your mediations.

Middle Schools: A Site Coordinator logs the mediation, and mediators may but are not required to.

High Schools: A Site Coordinator logs the mediation as well as at least one mediator.

[Click here to fill out the form.](#)

For more details on how to use this form, view our handy guide [here](#).

STAFF PICK

Each month our staff members highlight their favorite conflict resolution resources.



The New Orleans nonprofit Center for Restorative Approaches (CRA) trains schools, offices, and other communities in restorative justice practices. Restorative justice is an alternative approach to discipline that's gaining traction in schools and courts across the country. [In this article](#), school officials in Jefferson Parish are highlighted for their peaceful conflict resolution approaches and how, in turn, suspension rates have decreased.

Rianna says: The [Restorative Justice Circle](#) offers an innovative approach to how schools handle conflict and it emphasizes how restorative justice approaches benefit students in their everyday lives. The restorative justice leader in the article parallels a mediator through facilitation of peaceful conflict resolution conversations.

TAP WORKSHOPS

Each month we feature one of our TAP workshops. Click on the image to read more about them.

Emotional Advocacy

What does it mean to put yourself first without putting others down? Learn how to understand, advocate for, and communicate your emotional needs.



PRACTICE ROLEPLAY

Val:

Each year, Tina hates on me for wanting to celebrate Valentine's Day. All I want to do is eat good food and see a movie, and she makes me feel bad for wanting to go out and have fun. I don't know why she has to be so bitter about me wanting to celebrate a holiday!

Impact Statement for Val:

Tina:

I honestly hate Valentine's Day. It's a stupid holiday and that fact that Val likes it is absurd. Everyone gets all lovey-dovey and I don't want to have to see that. It's dumb and I don't want to be part of it.

Impact Statement for Tina:

For more information contact us at 601.362.6357 or engagement@isjl.org.

TAP is sponsored by the ISJL.

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Call Us: [601-362-6357](tel:601-362-6357)

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