



Mediators Beyond Borders

INTERNATIONAL
Los Angeles

Welcome!

Mission

MBBI builds local skills for peace and promotes mediation worldwide

Vision

MBBI - People building peace

MBB-LA is committed to building a more peace “able” world through active engagement in and promotion for community dialogues, dialogue training, and local partnerships.

History

MBBI: Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) was founded by 60 conflict resolution professionals including 8 leaders in the field: Robert Creo, Ken Cloke, Lynn Cole, Sandia DiMola, Erica Fox, Joan Goldsmith, Nan Waller Burnett, and Rachel Wohl at the first first annual congress in Colorado, in October 2006.

MBBI started at a time when the founders recognized the critical need for conflict resolution skills at all levels of community, keenly aware of the necessary shift from the ‘powerful nations’ model to a ‘people centered’ peace building model; of the increasing leadership role of regional and sub regional organizations, along with increasing engagement of civil society actors. These transitions underscored the need to prepare *people at every level* for participation in state of the art peacebuilding processes that are multidisciplinary and collaborative.

The Mediators Beyond Borders Model comprised a unique 10-point model (if you say 10 then say what they are). MBBI solicits requests for support from international groups who are challenged by local conflict issues. MBBI members assess the need and develop long-term collaborative engagement with groups in their countries, implementing and tailoring steps to each conflict context. MBBI is committed to reduce the destructiveness of violent conflict, war, and terrorism, and create platforms on which deeper social and political changes might take place.

MBB-LA: MBB-LA was created in 2007 to bring the core vision and mission of MBBI to Southern California, where members living in this region could meet regularly to develop their skills and to offer services to local communities, and to collaborate with local partners who are committed to the same principals. Our focus is both local and international, with members working on a variety of mediation and facilitation projects.



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MBB-LA was a founding Group of Mediators Beyond Borders initiated by internationally renowned mediator and peacemaker Kenneth Cloke, with the goal of bringing mediation and facilitation strategies to address local and global needs.

Schedule

Monthly Meetings: MBB-LA holds monthly meetings for members to connect, discuss current issues, and plan upcoming events. These meetings are held **every third Saturday of the month from 11am to 1pm PDT**. Members are encouraged to attend in person, but online attendance is also available via the Zoom platform. Meeting reminders will be distributed via email along with the Zoom link, meeting agenda, and meeting minutes.

Mixers: There are two annual mixers – one in the spring and one in the winter. These serve as fundraisers for MBB-LA as well as networking opportunities.

Annual Retreat: The Regional Group retreat for members to assess the Group's achievements, challenges, and goals for the next year.



Chapter Roles

Leadership Team

The MBB-LA Leadership Team serves a one year period, from June to June. Leadership team members are elected annually in January, serving as Chair-elect, Treasurer-elect, and Communications Lead-elect from January through June.

Leadership Team members may be elected up to three times, but must take a minimum of one year leave following three years of service. MBB-LA Leadership team members may run unopposed, but still must be re-elected by active MBB-LA members. If a Leadership Team member is not able to perform his/her duties for any reason, the Leadership Team may call for an emergency vote at a general meeting to replace an individual effective immediately. This vote may be called by any Leadership team member.

Chair: The MBB-LA Chair oversees the Leadership Team, is the main MBB-LA Regional Group contact for MBBI, group members, and event partners, and is responsible for upholding the Group's Rules and Procedures. The Chair is responsible for writing meeting agendas, monitoring event planning, and representing MBB-LA to the larger community.

Treasurer: The MBB-LA Treasurer is responsible for monitoring Group's finances, balancing, and distributing funds. The Treasurer will collect donations/dues, monitor membership dues, and distribute funds appropriately for MBB-LA and partnered events. S/he will be the main point of contact to monitor MBB-LA membership reflected through MBBI records.

Communications: The MBB-LA Communications Lead is responsible for monitoring all forms of communication within the Regional Group. This includes communications with MBB-LA members and potential members. The Communications Lead is responsible for managing all MBB-LA social media accounts, email, Neon mailing list, and creating and distributing emails to the MBB-LA contact list.

Active Members

Active Group Members are individuals who are current with the membership dues to MBBI, granting him/her the benefits of the MBBI community as well as MBB-LA network. Active members are encouraged to regularly participate in the Group's events, meetings, and activities.

Benefits: Active Members will receive voting power to approve MBB-LA partnerships, events, and leadership. Member proposed events will receive priority over non-member or past-member proposals. Members may submit flyers and event notices to the Communications Lead, within the appropriate time indicated in the Communications Policy, to distribute to the



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MBB-LA contact list. Active Members will receive advance notice of events, be invited to MBB-LA retreats, and receive discounts to attend MBB-LA sponsored events.

Dues: Active Members are required to pay dues to MBBI, of which the Regional Group, MBB-LA, will receive a percentage to sponsor Group's events and activities. Membership dues are automatically charged monthly at the amount that you select upon joining

Please visit <https://mediatorsbeyondborders.org/join-us/> and click "[Become a Peacebuilder/Join Us](#)" to become an active member and learn more.

Inactive Members

Any Active Member who does not renew his/her membership dues will become Inactive. An Inactive Member will still be involved in MBB-LA activities, events, and meetings but has none of the benefits of being an Active Member. Inactive Members are welcome and encouraged to re-activate their membership at any time.

Past Members

Past Members are individuals who are no longer active with MBB-LA as neither Active Members nor Inactive Members. Past Members are welcome and encouraged to re-activate their membership at any time.