

Service Office Volunteers Needed

NA members willing to be trained in the office and serve 1-2 hours per week please call the office at (614) 252-1700 or stop by to set up an appointment.
Great service opportunity.

The Power of Love

Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text p. 46
God's love is the transforming power that drives our recovery. With that love, we find freedom from the hopeless, desperate cycle of using, self-hatred, and more using. With that love, we gain a sense of reason and purpose in our once purposeless lives. With that love, we are given the inner direction and strength we need to begin a new way of life: the NA way. With that love, we begin to see things differently, as if with new eyes. As we examine our lives through the eyes of love, we make what may be a startling discovery: The loving God we've so recently come to understand has always been with us and has always loved us. We recall the times when we asked for the aid of a Higher Power and were given it. We even recall times when we didn't ask for such help, yet were given it anyway. We realize that a loving Higher Power has cared for us all along, preserving our lives till the day when we could accept that love for ourselves. The Power of love has been with us all along. Today, we are grateful to have survived long enough to become consciously aware of that love's presence in our world and our lives. Its vitality floods our very being, guiding our recovery and showing us how to live.

Meetings Needing Support

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| <i>Sunday Diversity</i> | SUN 4 PM |
| <i>Show and Grow Up</i> | SUN 7 PM |
| <i>Hearts I</i> | SUN 7 PM |
| <i>Just Afternoon Group</i> | MON-FRI 12:15 PM |
| <i>The Never Alone Zone</i> | MON 7 PM |
| <i>Southside Serenity</i> | MON 7:30 PM |
| <i>Principles B4 Personalities</i> | MON 8PM |
| <i>The Triple R Group</i> | TUES 7 PM |
| <i>The Next Write Thing</i> | TUES 9:20 PM |
| <i>New Start Group</i> | WED 8 PM |
| <i>We Care Group</i> | WED 8 PM |
| <i>We Do Recover</i> | THUR 6:30 PM |
| <i>Never Alone Never Again</i> | THUR 7:30 PM |
| <i>Let's Dump It All</i> | FRI 7 PM |
| <i>Hope, Not Dope</i> | FRI 7 PM |
| <i>Pickerington NA Group</i> | SAT 8 PM |

See schedule for meeting locations



**for the Newcomer
Responsible Recovery**


Some of us, well accustomed to leaving our personal responsibilities to others, may attempt the same behavior in recovery. We quickly find out it doesn't work. For instance, we are considering making a change in our lives, so we call our sponsor and ask what we should do. Under the guise of seeking direction, we are actually asking our sponsor to assume responsibility for making decisions about our life. Or maybe we've been short with someone at a meeting, so we ask that person's best friend to make our apologies for us. Perhaps we've imposed on a friend several times in the last month to cover our service commitment. Could it be that we've asked a friend to analyze our behavior and identify our shortcomings, rather than taking our own personal inventory? Recovery is something that has to be worked for. It isn't going to be handed to us on a silver platter, nor can we expect our friends or our sponsor to be responsible for the work we must do ourselves. We recover by making our own decisions, doing our own service, and working our own steps. By doing it for ourselves, we receive the rewards.

Narcotics Anonymous, Basic Text, p.94

An addict shares his experience with Step Nine ... "We made direct amends wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

Step nine.....wow!!!! up until this point my contact in step work was with god, my sponsor and me. Now the time has come to interact with others outside the recovery process. Courage, courage, courage was required. Simplicity was the key for me in the application of this step. "Wherever possible" was puzzling to me when I first read the steps in early recovery. My higher power's role in the "wherever possible" was realized after going over it with my sponsor. God provides the timing and I provide the action. The feeling that comes when it's time to make the amends is God's clock. The courage to go forward was provided by the evidence of the personal courage to do the previous eight steps. Keeping it simple has me practicing patience with the timing, humility by not trying to overdo the amends but still being as honest as possible and forgiveness when feeling that my amends were accepted. I could go on and on with principles needed in this step. Having to approach others made this step possibly the most difficult one for me to feel resolution with. How I was received was truly only knowledgeable by God and that other person. I'm ok with not knowing the answer to that question...I've done my part.....an addict seeking recovery

On serving selflessly
 “Thank you for allowing me to be of service” punctuates many of the reports given by trusted servants at all levels throughout the NA Fellowship. Many of us find this phrase kind of strange when we first come to NA. We think, why are these people thanking us, the people for whom they take on heavy burdens of responsibility? Shouldn’t it be the other way around? But after we’ve had the opportunity to be of service—in any capacity—and realize what it does for us in terms of personal growth, we no longer find it odd to thank the people we serve for trusting us to do something for them. It is indeed a privilege to be of service. Not everyone can handle it at first. Some of us serve on committees and are unable to put our personal views aside in favor of what’s best for NA as a whole. Some of us get angry that others are not more helpful or more grateful, and quit in the middle of a commitment. However, if we keep working on our recovery, most of us do develop an ability to serve selflessly. When we do, there are many opportunities, ranging from the group to world, artistic to technical, fast-paced to low-key.

ASK IT BASKET with Captain 

Question: How do I get a review draft of *Narcotics Anonymous, Basic Text, Sixth Edition*?

Answer: NAWS will send a copy of the draft to all conference participants, all regional service committees, all area service committees, and any members with interest who sign up. You can sign up online: www.na.org/conference/index.htm—or you can contact NA World Services via email or post and have a hard copy of the draft sent to you:
 NAWS, Inc.
 PO Box 9999

Tradition 9
“NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.” NA groups join together, combining their resources to create service boards and committees that will help them better fulfill their primary purpose. Those boards and committees are not called to govern NA; they are called, rather, to faithfully execute the trust given them by the groups they serve.
 From *A Guide to Local Services in NA*

We have found that the way to remain a productive, responsible member of society is to put our recovery first. NA can survive without us, but we cannot survive without NA.
Narcotics Anonymous, Basic Text, pg. 102

ANONYMITY: IT'S A GROUP EFFORT

In an effort to get a fresh perspective on something we hear in our fellowship, both in and out of the rooms, a group of us got together to read and discuss anonymity. The experience was incredible! The clean time among us ranged from one week to 16 years, helping us all to see that, in the spirit of anonymity, *everyone* has a voice in NA, regardless of where they are in their recovery. It was good to talk about something other than “What you hear here, let it stay here” or “Even if I hate you, I need to listen to what you say because it may save my life.” These are good things to say and hear, but we don’t think these phrases do any justice to the concept of anonymity. We looked up the definition of “anonymous,” and we believe the following one from *Webster’s New World Dictionary* was the most applicable: “not easily distinguished from others or from one another because of a lack of individual features or character.” We feel when our actions are pure and without motive, it becomes about carrying the message. When we are doing the right thing for the right reason, it isn’t about who does it; it’s about just getting it done. The message of recovery is clear: freedom from active addiction. The individual person, practicing anonymity, carries that message to another addict by sharing their experience, strength, and hope, and offering encouragement—or maybe even just a hug. If we are not practicing anonymity, we will let ego, self-will ...

and the self-preservation instinct take over. We will judge others and their actions, not their disease. We will be not helping but hindering those who are seeking recovery. We, as a fellowship, need to remember the reason NA exists—to help addicts stop using and find a new way of life. As we share, both in a meeting and one-on-one, we are reminded of the gifts we can receive: hope, help, giving, being spiritually grounded, and happiness without drugs. We share the message, regardless of who we *think* should hear it. In the spirit of anonymity, all members are equal, regardless of race, creed, religion, or gender, whether they are rich, poor, famous, or living on the streets. Just as all addicts are equal, so are our groups, and anonymity helps us to see this more clearly. It doesn’t matter how many people attend, or how much money the group donates, or how many serve the group—we are all equal. Anonymity means our contributions at any level are equal. When it comes to the service structure, anonymity plays big in how we get things done. The fellowship practices anonymity by allowing all ideas to be heard, even when we *think* we don’t want to hear them. We look at putting on diversified activities to address even the smallest minority’s interests, as well as the interests of the majority. Those of us who serve on boards and committees work to find how best to serve other addicts instead of only ourselves.

For more information on service opportunities or upcoming events, please call the Area Service Office at (614) 252-1700. The Area Service Office is located on the second floor of 1561 Old Leonard Ave.