

West-SouthWest Area of Narcotic Anonymous

CLEANSHEET

November 2023

ON THE RIGHT TRACK
TIME FOR CHANGE
SHOPPING FOR RECOVERY
38TH AND CHESTNUT STREET GROUP
I CAN'T, WE CAN
RECOVERY IN THE PARK
KEEP COMING BACK CLEAN
HERE'S FAITH GROUP
LEARNING TO RECOVER
ANOTHER CHANCE AT LIFE
NO MORE MISERY
A GIFT OF SURRENDER
STAYING CLEAN MUST COME FIRST
MESSAGE OF HOPE
TOUGH GROUP
WHAT CAN I DO
SURVIVAL GROUP
DARBY HILL TOP
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH
LET'S SURRENDER BY NA MEANS
11TH STEP GROUP
CHANGING LIVES GROUP
SURRENDER AROUND THE WAY

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Hybrid, Virtual & In Person Meetings So many Choices

On January 11th , 2023 the CDC, released its report concerning the new triple threat. The influenza (flu) and the two new Covid 19 variances. Even though CDC is an outside issue and some of the restrictions have been lifted. The places where NA as a whole meets, we must adhere to guidelines handed down to us by those places. A Lot of meetings and NA functions are still being held virtually. But NA still meets in person and hybrid as well. Let's keep in social distance, as well as masking up. The New Year is upon us, so let's think safety first.

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CleanSheet Anniversaries

Congratulations

to the Home Groups

on Another Year of Service

CleanSheet Anniversaries

Congratulations to NA members for Another Year Clean

On the Right Track Group

Aminah 11/27/06 17 yrs
Bruce 11/02/22 1 yrs
Donna, V 11/06/98 25 yrs
Gail 11/02/94 29 yrs
Harry, S 11/02/90 33 yrs R.I.P.
Jeff, C 11/01/88 35 yrs
John, B 11/17/03 20 yrs
T.C. 11/16/11 12 yrs
Zaahir, R 11/04/17 6 yrs

Recovery In the Park

Scarborn 11/25/96 27 yrs
Ralph 11/03/16 7 yrs

Keep Coming Back Clean Group

Sabrina 11/24/22 1 yr
Levi 12/5/11 13 yrs

Another Chance At life Group

Chris, H. 10/21/21 2 yrs
Kenny, S 10/19/ 4 yrs
Jonny, C 11/17/ 6 yrs

38th and Chestnut St. Group

Warren, R 11/28/95 28yrs

Drug problem?
Maybe we can help...
Narcotics Anonymous
WWW.NA.ORG

To find a meeting or a 24 hour helpline near you,
Log on to NA.org



Attention

Sunday Night Alive Group is moving to Greater Mt. Olive AME Church on 50th and Aspen Street. On Sunday, November 5, 2023 from 2:00pm-3:30 pm

NA announcement

An Addict, any Addict

Can Stop using drugs

Lose the desire to use and find a new way to Live

Call Narcotics Anonymous to find a meeting or talk to another recovering addict

215-629-6757

www.naworks.org

CLEANSHEET

A MATTER OF CONCEPTS

Eleventh Concept

NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.

NA members around the world contribute money to help our fellowship fulfill its primary purpose. It is incumbent upon every element of our service structure to use those funds to carry the NA recovery message as far as possible. To do that, our service bodies must manage those funds responsibly, accounting fully and accurately for its use to those who have provided it.

Narcotics Anonymous funds should always be used to further our primary purpose. Money is used to pay the expenses involved in running NA recovery meetings, to inform the public about NA, and to reach addicts who can't get to meetings. It is used to develop, produce, translate, and distribute our message in written form, and to bring our members together in a service community committed to the vision of spreading our message around the world to those in need. All of this is done in support of NA's spiritual aim: to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

Service funds aren't easy to come by. To fulfill our primary purpose, we need all of the financial resources at our fellowship's disposal. Our groups, service boards, and committees must make prudent use of the money we give them, refusing to spend money frivolously or self-indulgently. With NA's primary purpose in mind, our services will avoid wasting money, using the funds they've been given to carry our message as effectively as possible.

One way we apply Concept Eleven is by establishing clear spending priorities and measuring each proposed expenditure against that priority list. Many groups, service boards, and committees have more items on their priority lists than their budgets will allow. In such cases, only the highest priorities can be funded.

Money is only one of the resources we must responsibly prioritize. While the Eleventh Concept applies directly to the management of funds, it also has implications for the management of all our service resources. Most projects depend as much on ideas,

information, conscience, and members' time and willingness as they do on money. If we have the funds needed to carry out a project but lack the time or the ideas, we'd best wait until we've gathered all the needed resources before proceeding. If we don't, we will have wasted NA service funds. In responsibly planning and prioritizing our service efforts, we must consider the total resource picture, not just our finances.

In setting priorities, we may be tempted to look only at our own needs, tightly holding on to funds, spending money only on our own projects, and neglecting our role in providing needed funds to all levels of service. That kind of thinking is contrary to the Eleventh Concept. High on our list of priorities should be a commitment to further the goals of NA as a whole. For NA to deliver the services necessary to keep growing and fulfilling our primary purpose around the world, the flow of funds must not bottleneck at any point in our structure.

While groups are responsible to fund our services, they are also responsible to carefully manage their service contributions. When contributing money, groups should ask themselves what that money will do once it leaves their hands. Will it aid in the delivery of useful services to the groups? Will it help carry our message to the addict who still suffers? Will the service board or committee use it wisely? Our groups are free to decide for themselves how much they will contribute to the different levels of our service structure. We encourage them to do so, and to do so responsibly.

This is not to suggest that groups earmark contributions for any particular subcommittees. The groups have created the service structure not only to deliver services on their behalf, but to coordinate those services. In delegating to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill its responsibilities, the groups have also delegated the authority to coordinate the allocation of service resources at each level of service. That way, the needs and goals of all fields of service can be effectively balanced against the total resources of the coordinating service body.

Clear, frank communication from our service structure is the best way to help our groups contribute their funds in a responsible way. When the groups receive full, regular reports on the activities of their service boards and committees, they begin to see the total service picture. The groups should also receive information on how much those activities cost. That kind of communication helps assure our groups that their contributions are being handled responsibly.

Direct group contributions to our service structure encourage responsible management of service funds and help our services maintain their focus on NA's primary purpose. It is

our experience that, when we make a commitment to fund the work of each level of the service structure exclusively through group contributions, we find it easier to maintain a strong link between our groups and our other service units. Our groups tend to be more aware of the work being done on their behalf and of their responsibility to provide their boards and committees with the necessary financial resources. When all levels of our service structure receive direct financial support from the groups, the bonds of mutual responsibility are strengthened between them. Additionally, by freeing our service boards and committees from the need to engage in fundraising activities, we make it possible for those service units to devote their full energies to the fulfillment of NA's primary purpose.

Accountability is an essential aspect of responsible NA financial management. When the members of Narcotics Anonymous provide groups, committees, offices, and conventions with funds, our service structure is responsible to account for how those funds are used. Regular financial reports, open books, and periodic audits of NA accounts, as described in the various guides developed for NA treasurers, help our members be sure their contributions are being used well, and help our services remain financially accountable to those they serve. Treasurers' reports help us see how well our actual service spending matches up with the priorities we've established. Consistent financial records help us make realistic spending plans for future service activities. Regular financial reporting and auditing also help deter the theft of NA service funds; and if funds are stolen, regular audits ensure that such thefts cannot go long unnoticed.

When NA members contribute service funds, they expect their money to be used carefully, and to be used for the sole purpose of furthering our primary purpose. By accepting those contributions, our groups, service boards, and committees make a commitment to use those funds to carry the NA message, and to manage them responsibly.

Concept of the Month

Eleventh Concept

NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly. The Eleventh Concept establishes the sole absolute priority for the use of NA funds: to carry the message.

Study and discussion questions

1. What is money used for in your group? Your area? Your region? Your world services?
2. Rank the following group budget priorities:

NA literature

Refreshments

Meeting-Hall rent

Group reserve

Service donations

Why did you rank them in the order you did? Does your group have standing budget priorities, or does it handle such questions month to month?

3. Do you know of instances where NA money has been spent frivolously at the group level? In an area or regional committee? In world services? What was frivolous about the way that money was spent? How should it have been spent instead?
4. Are NA funds well-accounted for in your group? Your area and region? In world services? If not, what kinds of financial reports would you like to see instead?

Step of the Month

Step Eleven

“We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out.”

The first ten steps have set the stage for us to improve our conscious contact with God of our understanding. They give us the foundation to achieve our long-sought, positive goals. Having entered this phase of our spiritual program through practicing the previous ten steps, most of us welcome the exercise of prayer and meditation. Our spiritual condition is the basis for a successful recovery that offers unlimited growth.

Many of us really begin to appreciate our recovery when we get to the Eleven Step. In the Eleven Step, our lives take on a deeper meaning. By surrendering control, we gain a far greater power.

The nature of our belief will determine the manner of our prayers and meditations. We need only make sure that we have a system of belief that works for us. Results count in recovery. As have been noted elsewhere, our prayers seemed to work as soon as we entered the program of Narcotics Anonymous and we surrendered to our disease. The conscience contact described in this step is the direct result of living the steps. We use this step to improve and maintain our spiritual condition. BT p. 44

Throughout our recovery, one of the things which stands out as a result of our working the steps is our success in building a relationship with the God of our understanding. Our initial efforts resulted in the decision we made in the Third Step. We continued by working the following steps, each one of which were designed to clear away whatever barriers might stand between our Higher Power and ourselves. As a result, we are open to receive our Higher Power's love and guidance directly in our lives. It works p. 105

Tradition of the Month

Tradition Eleven

Basic Text p. 75

“Our public relation policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”

This tradition deals with our relationship to those outside the fellowship. It tells us how to conduct our efforts at the public level. Our public image consists of what we have to offer, a successful proven way of maintaining a drug-free lifestyle. While it is important to reach as many people as possible, it is imperative for our protection that we are careful about advertisement, circulars and any literature that may reach the public's hand.

Our attraction is that we are successful in our own right. As groups, we offer recovery. We have found that the success of our program speaks for itself; this is our promotion.

This tradition goes on to tell us that we need to maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films. This is to protect the membership and the reputation of Narcotics Anonymous. We do not give our last names nor appear in the media as a member of Narcotics Anonymous. No individual inside or outside the fellowship represents Narcotics Anonymous. Basic Text p. 75

Tradition Eleven

G.P. p 202

When we try to practice anonymity with an inflated ego, it hurts. That pain shows that we have room for growth. Anonymity requires ego deflation. Practicing namelessness leads us to a deeper understanding of selflessness. We experiment with anonymity: doing good deeds that no one knows about; doing service that no one sees; keeping the confidences of others. We start to experience the gift of giving freely. We begin to feel integrity, to know who we are without depending on others to tell us. Much of what has been written in NA about anonymity frames it as a sacrifice. In reality, it's a gift. It's freedom.

Spiritual Principle of the month

Freedom from active addiction.

Freedom, Freedom, and even more Freedom.

Spiritual thoughts for the Month

Our Greatest Need

Basic Text p. 45

“We eventually redefine our beliefs and understanding to the point where we see that our greatest need is for knowledge of God’s will for us and the strength to carry that out.”

Basic Text p. 48

When we first arrived in NA we had all kinds of ideas of what we needed. Some of us set our sights on amassing personal possessions. We thought recovery equaled outward success. But recovery does not equal success. Today, we believe that our greatest need is for spiritual guidance and strength. The greatest damage done to us by our addiction was the damage done to our spirituality.

Just for today: I will seek the fulfillment of my greatest need: a vital, guiding connection with the God of my understanding.

Attraction

Basic Text p. 75

“Our public image consists of what we have to offer: a successful, proven way of maintaining a drug-free lifestyle.”

Yes, we are attracting new members. More and more addicts are finding Narcotics Anonymous. But how do we treat our newest members when they arrive, worn out from their struggles with themselves at our meetings, confused and uncertain? Are we willing to give them rides to meetings? Do we still work one-on-one with the addict who suffers? Do we give out our phone numbers? Are we eager to go on a Twelfth step call, even if it means getting up from our comfortable beds in the middle of the night? Will we be with someone who has a different sexual orientation or is from another culture? Are we generous with the gift of our time?

Just for today: I will work with a newcomer. I will remember that I was once a newcomer myself. I will seek to attract others with the same sense of belonging I've found in NA. JFT. p.96

Spiritual thought for the Month

It's not happy people who are thankful. It's thankful people who are happy. That sounds like us who are in NA.

In part, Mass Text, Bro James
All submitted with Love!
Love and Respect
Cleansheet Rep. Leegrant, M
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