**Tradition Seven Session Outline**

Materials:

* Session note sheets with extract from It Works: How and Why, and pens
* One copy of It Works: How and Why per table if possible
* Large sheets of paper and markers for the front of the room

**Introduction 5 minutes**

Explain the goals of session:

* Lead members in a discussion of the spiritual principles related to Tradition Seven, using It Works: How and Why as a resource
* Discuss how these principles can be applied in our groups and service bodies

Rather than simply talking about how our groups and service bodies need money to provide meetings and other NA services, the session focuses on the principles behind the need to be self-supporting. By discussing these principles and coming to a deeper understanding of them members will hopefully be helped to use them when they consider how to be self-supporting in their meetings and in their NA service, as well as in their personal recoveries.

**Large Group Discussion 15 minutes**

Ask different volunteers to read the excerpts from the Seventh Tradition essay on their handouts with different members reading about one of the principles. [If translation is necessary then try to do this as you go along.]

After each principle spend a few minutes making a note of the main ideas about the principle. Write each principle at the top of a large sheet of paper and ask the attendees to suggest a few words that are important in relation to that principle. For example, for gratitude we might write “a sense of gratitude among ourselves”, “grateful for the group”, or “group’s collective commitment to support itself.”

[Note to facilitator: It is probably a good idea to ask someone to help by writing down the ideas throughout this workshop. This is also a good opportunity to involve a newer member and give them experience.]

Put the sheets on the wall so members can refer to them during the rest of the workshop.

**Small Group Discussion 15 minutes**

Ask each table to select a leader for the discussion – we call this person the facilitator. Their role is to:

* Help everyone at the table to understand what they are being asked to do
* Remind everyone to share the time so that everyone has a chance to speak
* Help the group to stay focused on the question
* Lead the group in choosing a recorder for the discussion

**Gratitude, Responsibility, Faith, Integrity and Anonymity, Freedom**

Ask each table to talk about one of the five main spiritual principles related to self-support by answering this question:

**“How can we apply this principle in our groups?”**

Use the excerpts from the handouts and the notes on the wall to help the discussion get started. Ask the recorder to record the ideas from the table’s discussion. If necessary divide the principles up between the tables so each one gets discussed.

**Small Group Feedback 10 minutes**

Ask each table to quickly share **one** idea from their discussion. Write the ideas down on a large sheet of paper at the front of the room.

[Again, this is a good opportunity to involve a newer member by asking them to help.]

**Large Group Discussion 15 minutes**

Use the rest of the time to discuss this question as a large group:

**“How can we apply this principle in our service bodies?”**

Write down the ideas at the front of the room.

I might help to remember that even though service bodies are supported by the groups that create them and are not expected to raise their own funds in the same way that groups are, the principles of self-support can still be applied. For example: If we are self-supporting we have the freedom to carry the NA message and are not obligated to outside enterprises such as treatment centers.