

important dates and announcements

Mental Health in Recovery

NA's newest piece of recovery literature, IP #30, is posted online at www.na.org/ips and available for sale at www.na.org/webstore.



NAWS is on Instagram!

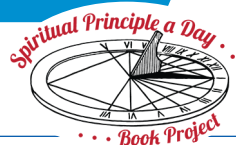
www.instagram.com/narcoticsanonymous



Please consider making a contribution if you are able:
www.na.org/contribute

what can I do? ways to get involved in the work

Spiritual Principle a Day Book Project



WRITE—on your own or with other members—on the principles currently in circulation:

autonomy, conscience, courage, discipline, flexibility, fidelity, individuality, listening, powerlessness, self-discipline, trust, serenity, and “we”

REVIEW drafts and give us your feedback. Entries on gratitude are available now. Check back for the rest of Batch #4 in late October.

Host a **WORKSHOP** to write or gather input with fellow members. See the website for materials.

Visit www.na.org/spad for all the latest.

Upcoming web meetings

Conference Participants: 17 October, 11:00 am PDT

Phonelines: 13 October, 3:30 pm PDT

Zonal FD/PR: 10 October, 10:00 am PDT

Visit www.na.org/webinar for more information.

We welcome your ideas and input:
worldboard@na.org

Hello. This is the second NAWS News since the global shut down began in March. Current staff levels and financial restraints require us to be brief particularly because we are reporting in six languages. In order to keep it short, we will mainly focus on WSC business and our plans for projects.

This update comes not long after the close of the 2020 World Service Conference. We are, at last, beginning the 2020–2022 conference cycle. We have one member, Junior, rolling off the World Board after twelve dedicated years of service. We are grateful he will continue serving on the Business Plan Group (BPG), the workgroup that helps advise the Board on NAWS' financial matters. Junior's experience as a business man and an economist, as well as his depth of knowledge of NA World Services, make him a valuable member of that team.

As we previously reported, we have gratefully welcomed our four newly elected Board members and we have selected a new executive committee. Tali from Hawaii will serve as our Chair, Tim from Australia as our Vice chair, Irene from Ireland our Secretary, and Jack from Washington State as our Treasurer.

It's strange to welcome and orient new Board members with no hugs and no opportunity to have a meal together or get in the van and go to a recovery meeting. We are trying to adapt to our “new normal,” and for now, that means virtual meetings, electronic publications, and reduced staff. But plenty of work is being done on your behalf—more than we can cover here—and we are eager to begin the cycle.

WSC PART TWO

WSC 2020 began on 24 April and officially adjourned on 13 August, when the summary of decisions was posted on na.org. It was the first virtual WSC, and it was also the longest amount of time between beginning and ending a WSC—sixteen weeks! We reported on Part One in the June NAWS News update.

Part two of the Conference took place 7–9 August. WSC 2020 decisions included:

- To seat Minas (Brazil) and Northwest Russia as Conference participants. Welcome!
- To consider zonal seating requests only from zones that were formed before WSC 2018, until seating criteria or a process for seating can be established.
- To continue the suspension of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)* Inspection Clause.
- And unanimous approval of the pamphlet *Mental Health in Recovery*.



MENTAL HEALTH IN RECOVERY

NA's newest piece of recovery literature, IP #30, is posted online at www.na.org/ips and available for sale as inventory item #3130 for 33 cents each at www.na.org/webstore.

We are encouraged by the unanimous support for the pamphlet at the WSC. The pamphlet captures the shared experiences of NA members, and we all know the therapeutic value of that shared experience is without parallel. As the pamphlet says, "We gain a sense of belonging when we identify with others in meetings." We hope this new piece of literature will help addicts identify and recover.

INVEST IN OUR VISION

We've known for a long time that reliance on literature sales for most of NAWS' income is not a sustainable approach. The global shut-downs have brought things to a crisis. Many areas and regions that depend on event income to fund services are feeling the same sting. We all need to work together to offset the income that is being lost at every level of service.

Our first concrete goal in the effort to Invest in our Vision (IIOV) is to increase the number of recurring monthly contributions by 1,000 by the end of October 2020. In February of this year there were only 50 recurring contributors. As of 20 September that number has increased to 652.

Please consider making a contribution if you are able: www.na.org/contribute, and help us to spread the word. Recurring contributions provide a stable source of income for NA World Services. As one of our Board members recently said, if every member who attended WCNA 37 in Orlando contributed \$20 per month, that would bring over \$5,000,000 of new income to NA World Services and reduce the reliance on literature income. For many of us, this may be a new way to think about funding World Services, but it's achievable. Thank you for all you do for NA.

Many of you know about the Washington/Northern Idaho event, The Journey Continues 2020, that took place non-stop over the course of three days, 4–7 September. The purpose of the event was to celebrate recovery and increase member contributions to World Services. The primary motivation was to replace the amount this region normally contributes

each year, which will not happen this year because the source of most of those funds was from conventions.

This remarkable event provided a variety of recovery meetings for many hours to thousands of NA members and raised more than \$52,000 in one-time contributions for NAWS, in addition to 90 new recurring contributions totaling approximately \$2,500 per month.

Thank you Washington/Northern Idaho Region and to all of the members who worked so hard to make the event happen. If you were able to join in, you know it was an amazing celebration of recovery in NA.

At the request of the event organizers, we put together several videos—one explaining what NA World Service is and some of the work we do, one focusing on PR efforts, and one on Fellowship development. We are dividing those three long videos into shorter pieces to post on na.org and give to Conference participants and other interested members for use at service meetings and events.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of this writing, we are still operating with more than half of the staff furloughed, and our operating reserves are keeping us functioning at a greatly reduced level. We have reduced expenses where we can, primarily with staff and travel, but our expenses still exceed income. The World Board and Spiritual Principle a Day Workgroups continue to meet virtually, as do bodies such as the European Delegates Meeting and Canadian Assembly, to which we would have traveled, under ordinary circumstances. Rent, equipment, and other overhead expenses at five locations are all legal obligations, by contract, and cannot be changed as quickly.

Many other expenses are ongoing obligations assigned to NA World Services by the WSC. Our annual audit will be in process as this report is published—socially distanced but still occurring. We have also had hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal expenses, primarily due to two legal actions brought against NA World Services—one in the US and one in Russia. We are not able to comment much about either until they are resolved, but we have provided Conference participants with the information we are able to share at this time.



2020–2022 PROJECTS

Because the Conference so recently ended and the new Board has just been seated, we are only now able to begin planning work on the newly approved projects. It is important to remember that these are extraordinary times. The WSC acknowledged the current crisis' potential impact on project work, by passing Motion V3:

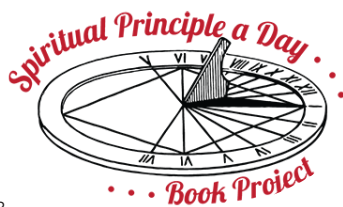
As WSC 2020 participants, we acknowledge our understanding and acceptance that all 2020–2022 project plans were created and offered before the current world crisis and public health-imposed quarantine and will only be worked on when and if the resources become available. We will consider each project plan presented for the 2020–2022 cycle on a project by project basis as required by current conference policy with this qualification. We will also provide priorities for the plans for new and revising existing Recovery IPs, IDTs, and the Local Service Toolbox plan.

**116 yes, 10 no, 2 abstentions, 2 present not voting
91% Carried by Consensus**

We are trying to take a flexible approach to the projects. We plan to have only two standing workgroups: The existing workgroup for SPAD will continue on, and the FIPT Operational Rules workgroup from last cycle will be the workgroup for this cycle's FIPT Project, with the exception of Mario, who has been elected WSC Cofacilitator. For the Role of Zones Project we intend to use the Virtual Meeting of Zones, which has been happening regularly. For the other projects we intend to use web meetings, focus groups, and surveys. That's an approach that allows us to cast the widest net possible for participation.

SPAD

This is the second cycle for the Spiritual Principle a Day Project, and we are on track to include the approval draft for the book in the 2022 Conference Agenda Report.



We've posted a sneak preview at the fourth batch of entries for review and input: www.na.org/spad along with workshop materials designed for an online environment.

We also continue to encourage member writing on spiritual principles. There are quotes to get you started and online forms on the project website: www.na.org/spad.

LOCAL SERVICE TOOLBOX— ONLINE MEETINGS

The Local Service Toolbox is also not a first-time project. *GSR Basics* is being finalized as we type. It will be posted on the project page www.na.org/toolbox along with *CBDM Basics*, and *Serving in Rural and isolated Communities*.



The WSC decided on two related initial focuses for the Toolbox: Online meetings best practices and carrying the NA message effectively and virtually. The importance of tools for online meetings has never been more clear to many of us. Online meetings seems like one of the most important things to talk about this cycle. We have already collected a treasure trove of useful resources posted here: www.na.org/virtual.

We have already held a couple of web meetings open to any member about online meetings. The most recent one took place in June. When we were planning the meeting, we guessed between 200 and 300 members would attend. As it turns out, we exceeded our room capacity of 1,000, and many who wanted to be there weren't able to get in. We intend to hold more web meetings on the subject, and next time we will be more prepared.

We also plan to post an online survey for members to give input about what to include in tools for online meetings. We hope that local service bodies—including regions and zonal forums—will take up this discussion and provide input to this project so we can frame the future together. A workshop outline and an online survey form will be posted after Conference Participants webinar on 17 October.

FIPT

We had a FIPT Project last cycle that led to three motions in the 2020 CAR. One of those motions was to “approve the initiation of the established process to revise the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* in the 2020–2022 Conference cycle.”

We need to revise the FIPT to reflect WSC 2018's decision to make zonal delegates full voting participants at the Conference. The FIPT refers solely to regional delegates as the decision-makers, however. In order for zonal delegates to have their votes counted as full Conference participants on FIPT-related issues, such as approving recovery literature, the FIPT needs to be updated. We will use the same virtual workgroup who worked on the FIPT last cycle to produce a draft revision of the FIPT. The draft will be released to the Fellowship for a six-month review, and then a draft for approval will be included in the 2022 Conference Agenda Report.

IP REVISION

The WSC approved a project to revise at least one IP. Using the CAR survey results as a guide, Conference participants selected IP #21, *The Loner*, as the first IP to revise. *The Loner* was written in 1986, before cell phones or email or the worldwide web! We will survey the Fellowship to gather ideas about revisions. A final draft will be included in the Conference Agenda Report for approval. We hope to have a draft ready for the 2022 WSC, but if not, we will offer one for 2024.



We have several other projects to work on this cycle including Issue Discussion Topics (IDT's), understanding what NA wants to say about DRT/MAT as it relates to NA, and the Role of Zones. We will report more about these soon.



- We are the last stages of finalizing seven book translations for publication: the French Sixth Edition Basic Text, Nepali Basic Text, Kannada Basic Text, Swahili Basic Text, Portuguese (Brazilian) *Living Clean*, Greek *Living Clean*, and Spanish *Miracles Happen*. Over twenty translated IPs and booklets are also in the production stage.
- We have held seven web meetings since the last NAWS News: PR, a Conference participant web meeting, PR/FD, Phoneline, WSC Orientation, US Zones, and Inmate Step-writing.

HRP REPORT

Greetings from the Human Resource Panel. We hope that everyone is safe and healthy in these trying times. We are glad to be able to offer a short report, updating you on our work as we move into the 2020–2022 Conference cycle.

The unusual scheduling of WSC 2020 provided us the opportunity to transition from the 2018–2020 cycle by bringing together the outgoing, currently seated, and newly seated panel members for two of our recent web meetings. There we set the groundwork for our current cycle's action plan. This provided great value, and we intend to recommend that this "handing off" become a regular part of the HRP's process. Thanks one last time to Jim B and Veronica B for their service.

One of the focuses of our plan is the RBZ process. As a reminder, the RBZ recommendation process provides regions, the World Board, and zones the ability to forward potential candidates to the Human Resource Panel. It is important to note that an RBZ recommendation is not a nomination. Here is a link to details: www.na.org/?ID=HRP-Info8&ID=HRP-Info8.

We encourage service bodies to begin now to consider the leadership qualities of members in their community to determine if any rise to a level of support that may warrant an RBZ recommendation. Based on historical election data, the WSC seems to find value in RBZ recommendations. And this cycle, we intend to develop resources that strengthen and support the RBZ process.

We are also studying three other topics. You will hear more about each of these in future HRP reports. They include

- reviewing the value of the World Pool,
- the relevance of requiring reference checks from nominees (especially those who receive an RBZ), and
- the impact of nominations from Conference participants.

We intend to provide detailed evaluations and possible recommendations on each of these as we move through the Conference cycle.

In the spirit of brevity, we will stop here for now. As always, we welcome any comments. Write to hrp@na.org.

IN CLOSING

There is much more work we are doing on the Fellowship's behalf. We look forward to updating you on PR activities, translations, and more soon.

INSTAGRAM

As you no doubt heard, we started an Instagram account [@narcoticsanonymous](https://www.instagram.com/narcoticsanonymous). We welcome pictures, memes, and ideas for posts, as long as they are your creation or in the public domain, don't show members' faces, and have wide interest to NA around the world. Share your joy: socialmedia@na.org.

WCNA

Although we are progressing with the necessary logistical arrangements for WCNA 38 in Melbourne, we are not currently able to determine whether it is possible to proceed with the event, due to obvious global factors such as health considerations and travel/border restrictions. From a planning point of view, we are able to hold off determining if it will be possible until the end of the calendar year. The Fellowship will be updated as we know more.

SOME OF THE REST OF WHAT WE ARE DOING

- All of our branches continue to ship literature orders, and the number of orders has increased, though the average size of orders remains much smaller than pre-Covid.
- We are answering mail, including H&I letters, and sending books to inmates.
- We continue to provide free literature to those communities who need it.
- We continue registering and renewing copyrights and trademarks around the world and licensing vendors.
- We have been trying to shore up some of the weaknesses of our aging network, a need that was underscored by a recent ransomware attack that we fended off (and did not pay).
- We (finally) added service system options as an appendix to *A Guide to Local Services*.
- We added Spanish and Thai to the Arabic, Hungarian, and Russian audio versions of the Basic Text posted for free download: <https://www.na.org/?ID=bt-aud>.
- We continue to post newly translated IPs and booklets to na.org and to add e-versions of translated Basic Texts to the commercial portals we use.