

FORMS OF SERVICE AT AREA

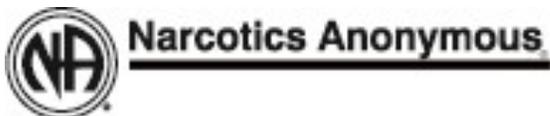
Areas serve the groups that are in particular geographic locations. There are thousands of areas of Narcotics Anonymous throughout our Worldwide Fellowship.

The Area Service Committee (ASC) looks like a group business meeting. The elected members of the ASC are called 'Trusted Servants' in NA. They have a Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary, Co-Secretary, Treasurer and Co-Treasurer. These are known as the executive committee members.

The purpose of the Area is to provide services for the groups. There are several subcommittees that have specific tasks. Each subcommittee has a Chair that is elected by the GSR's in attendance at the Area meetings when elections take place. In CVIANA your subcommittees are: Activities, Campout, Literature, Newsletter, Public Relations, Service Guidelines and Web Coordinator.

Areas also have a Regional Committee Member (RCM) and an Alternate RCM. These trusted servants represent our Area at the Regional Service Committee Meeting.

Areas in particular geographic locations come together to form a Regional Service Committee (RSC) creating the majority of the current service structure in NA today. Ours is the British Columbia Regional Service Committee of NA (BCRSCNA) or (BCRSC) and they meet every three months. Their responsibilities include communicating Area concerns to the RSC and informing their respective Areas of activities happening around the Region to help foster unity. Clear, concise communications are essential to the survival of NA as a whole.



SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED?

ABSOLUTELY!

We encourage you to choose a Home Group and become involved immediately. All Groups welcome new members. Many of us have found that our Home Group is the beginning of our path into service to Narcotics Anonymous and the way to find many meaningful friendships.

Central Vancouver Island Area of NA

2nd Sunday of each Month

9:30 am - GSR meeting 10:00 am - Area Meeting

Activities Committee

1st Sunday of each Month 7:00 pm

Public Relations (PR)

1st Friday of each month 6:00 pm

above listed are located at:

596 Albert Street, Nanaimo



What I've gained by being of service:

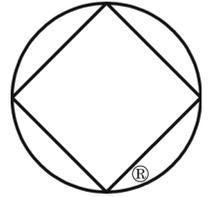
Trevor B. - from service "I've gained the knowledge that Responsibility and Accountability = Integrity".

Cindy C - "Service has taught me how to get out of myself and change my 'selfishness' into 'selflessness'".

Elissa B. - "I find it awkward talking with others. Having a service position helps me be a part of the group. It opens the doors for me To walk through AND I'm helping others, which is just so awesome!"

A look at

BEING OF SERVICE



Service Symbol

Central Vancouver Island Area of NA



Group Logo

Service...where the steps meet the traditions on the road of recovery

For an online resources go to www.NA.org and enter "a guide to local services" in the search box

INTRODUCTION

Our Area is in need of trusted servants to help us carry the message to the newcomer. How many times have we heard that there are open service positions that need filling? Especially at the Home Group level. We've heard this a few times at Area and saw this as an opportunity to share some knowledge. Your Group Service Representatives (GSRs) need your help. This is the reason why this pamphlet was created and why a few of us have gathered today to help out. To bring us all together to find solutions.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED
HOW THE MEETINGS ALWAYS HAVE A FOB FOR YOU
TO CELEBRATION YOUR CLEAN TIME?

WHAT IS "SERVICE" ?

Our literature states that our primary purpose in Narcotics Anonymous is to "carry the message to the addict who still suffers". We do this by being of service. Service comes in many forms and can be undertaken by anyone, even someone with 1 day clean can do service.

WHY DO "SERVICE"?

This is easy to answer, "We only keep what we have by giving it away". Our greatest tool for carrying out our primary purpose is the NA group, and without individuals doing service, the NA group would not survive. In our Basic Text it says that "Our survival is directly related to the survival of the Group and the Fellowship". We have also found that service is an integral part of personal recovery in NA and allows us to receive the full benefits that this program has to offer.

THE THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF ONE ADDICT HELPING
ANOTHER IS WITHOUT PARALLEL

SERVICE WITHIN THE GROUP

One of the best ways to get started in NA service is to decide which group you would most like to give back to. A lot of members will call this their "Home Group". This is a meeting you plan to attend regularly, where you get to know some of the people and let them get to know you. Choosing a Home Group is very important. We strongly suggest you choose a home group early on. A few ways you can be of service to your Home Groups are:

- ◆ Making coffee
- ◆ Opening the doors
- ◆ Passing out literature
- ◆ Setting up and Cleaning up
- ◆ Taking on an elected service position
- ◆ Attending the monthly business meetings

It is suggested that each group elect people for certain service positions at their Home Group. Some of these are: a GSR, who represents the group at the Area Meeting; a Treasurer, who keeps track of all the group's money and gives a report at the business meeting, a Secretary for the business meetings and/or the weekly meetings, who records what happened at the meetings, and a Literature person who may keep count of fobs, pamphlets and an inventory of NA literature available for sale at the Home Group.

HAVE SOME FEAR AROUND
NOT KNOWING HOW TO BE OF SERVICE?
JUST ATTEND YOUR HOME GROUP'S MONTHLY
BUSINESS MEETING AND SAY YOU WANT TO HELP.

It is important to let any member have something to do if they want to do service for their Home Group. In the past we've seen a Home Group activity person, a Welcome Fob presenter with a mention of what the Welcome Fob represents to them and anyone who wants one gets up and also gets a hug, there've been members who keep track of cakes and group members contact lists, a person who updates the secretary and Chair service binders... There's always room for service!

WHAT IS A BUSINESS MEETING?

Most NA groups have a monthly meeting called a *business meeting*. Discussions during the business meeting may include such things as making sure there is a good supply of NA books, pamphlets and other NA information on hand for regular meetings. It's also a time for groups to discuss how well their Home Group has been carrying the message of recovery to the still suffering addict, it may include discussions of the Group's meeting format, any regular distractions/problems that need to be addressed, which group members will be taking on specific tasks and what needs to be done with the money collected.

THE NEWCOMER IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON AT
ANY MEETING, BECAUSE WE CAN ONLY KEEP WHAT WE
HAVE BY GIVING IT AWAY.

Since NA groups are the final authority on all issues relating to NA, this is also a time when members discuss the actions and activities of the Area Service Committee (ASC)

All groups welcome new members. Many of us have found that our Home Group is the beginning of our path of service to NA. "It Works How and Why" says "Our groups work as well as they do because they keep it simple..." Yet for all it's emphasis on keeping things simple, Tradition Nine is not a excuse for disorganized service work; instead, it recognizes that our fellowship does require a certain degree of organization to fulfill its primary purpose. Rather than recommend that NA groups themselves become organized, Tradition Nine suggests that groups organize separate boards and committees to serve their needs.

MEETINGS DON'T JUST HAPPEN;
WE HAVE TO MAKE THEM HAPPEN.