

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES NEWSLETTER

Welcome

How do we attract the addict who still suffers to the fellowship of NA? We offer our experience, strength, and hope. Our message is powerful; "That an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live." Our Newsletter's purpose is to spread this message. Our local service committees share that same purpose. We invite you to read through these pages, get inspired, and get involved.





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Step of the Month: Step 9 Experience

"We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

I finally surrendered to the disease of addiction on April 22, 2017, immediately like in my past attempts to get clean, I wanted to make the wrongs I did right. I felt the overwhelming need to tell everyone around me that I was sorry. I felt that the sooner I verbally apologized, the better I would feel and the quicker I could pick up the pieces of my broken life. Most of my experiences with these apologies right out of treatment centers would be met with a familiar nodding of the head and a look from their face saying, "Okay friend, here we go again." My point is, Step Nine is 9th on our Steps for a reason. My "trust equity" was completely depleted and I had not worked the previous 8 Steps, therefore I had not given myself the chance to grow spiritually through the miracle of step work.

Step 9 is likely one of the most commercially known steps to non addicts, most people know that addicts will eventually apologize for their wrong doings to others. What non addicts don't understand is that instead of apologizing, we make direct or indirect amends. My sponsor and I began to work steps and by the time I got to my 9th Step almost 2 years had gone by. My family and friends closest to me began to see the changes in me and my words had clout. I had begun to become reliable and had started finally showing up to life. I went back to my 8th Step list and began the frightening task of making amends. I had also developed a better understanding of my Higher Power and had worked on drawing courage from him through prayer. This was most beneficial to me because there were people that I felt would shun me out.

Through advice from my sponsor and others in my circle, I was told that if a direct amends would cause injury to others, it would be best to make an indirect amends. Continues on Page 3



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Many names on my list were difficult to reach personally, and my amends would come from altering the behavior that had caused the resentment in the first place. Many times, simply making meetings and staying clean was enough of an amends. There were many positive moments during my 9th Step that made this step worthwhile. I was relieved of guilt and shame. I mended relationships that were completely fractured. Through attraction not promotion, people began to see the changes in my life. This made my 9th Step hold weight and people began their healing process as well. In one instance, a financial amends was needed for my daughter. When I was able to complete this amends, or in other words, physically replace funds I had taken; the action of this step provided great spiritual growth in my recovery.

Step 9 is an ongoing step that will constantly be worked throughout my life. I have faith that my Higher Power has always taken care of me and did not bring me this far to let me down. This faith ensures me that my Higher Power will place individuals in my life that I will be ready for when it becomes time to make amends.

Step 9 can be continuous throughout my life, and it has assisted with cleaning out the closet of guilt I carried for so many years during active addiction. I also experienced that 99.9% of my fears were false when it came to the reactions of people I came across. Most were very loving and encouraged me to stay the course. Most also stated that they knew I was under the influence and that I did a poor job of hiding it, despite my belief that I had everyone fooled. The light humored moments while working this step were refreshing at times. Step 9 is where it is for a reason. We must go through spiritual growth, while addressing behaviors that need to be changed to the best of our ability. Our Basic Text states, "Pride, fear, and procrastination often seem an impossible barrier; they stand in the way of progress and growth."

By E. Addict (04/22/2017)

Tradition of the Month: Tradition 9

"N.A., as such ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

Recently I was at a meeting and another addict shared that he knows our area is run by 5 or 6 people. I don't remember how this statement came about, but it caught my attention. I made a mental note to ask him after the meeting. He left before I was able to ask him, but it made me think. How/where/from whom did he get that impression? No one person, or group "runs" the area.

It Works How and Why tells us "We have no rules, no fees, no governing bodies..." The first four words in our basic text are, "Simplicity is the key..." I hear it all the time: "It's a simple program." The simplicity of the program and the fellowship is key. Simplicity does not mean disorganization. Tradition 9 helps us stay organized while ensuring the simplicity of the program and autonomy of the groups. Service begins at the individual level, then the group level.

As groups have grown, so has the fellowship, resulting in the need for some sort of service structure. Functions such as the purchase and distribution of literature, carrying the message into hospitals and institutions, and maintaining an up-to-date list of meetings require some sort of organized structure. Tradition nine empowers the groups to establish a service structure in response to needs expressed by the groups. Continues on Page 5

It Works How and Why states, "we organize them solely to serve us, not to establish a governing bureaucracy." It also states, "organized service work should be kept distinct from the groups."

Establishing service boards allows individual groups to effectively pool their resources while ensuring the individual group's focus remains meeting "regularly to help each other stay clean." To prevent our service boards from taking on an air of governance or stagnation, a system of rotating leadership is in place. It also ensures that no one personality (or five or six) ever dominates.

The ninth tradition "assures that the simple, spontaneous atmosphere of recovery shared one addict to another in the NA group is never organized, legislated, or regulated out of existence." (From It Works How and Why)

Personally, service work has been an important part of my recovery, always keeping in mind to maintain a healthy balance between service-based recovery and recoverybased service.

By J. Addict (09/25/1992)



Concept of the Month: Concept 9

"All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes."

Concept Nine encourages us, individually, to frankly speak our minds in discussions of service issues, even when most other members think differently. No, this concept is not telling us to become perpetual nay-sayers, objecting to anything agreed to by the majority. It does say, however, that we are responsible to share our thoughts and our conscience with our fellow members, carefully explaining our position and listening with equal care to the positions of others. When we show the courage necessary to speak our mind, while also showing respect for one another, we can be confident that we act in the best interests of the NA Fellowship. By insisting on thorough discussion of important issues, the worst we can do is take a little of each other's time; at best, we protect the fellowship from the consequences of a hasty or misinformed decision.

- Principle: Open-mindedness
- When making a decision, our groups, service boards, and committees should actively seek out all available viewpoints.
- We are responsible to share our thoughts and our conscience with our fellow members, carefully explaining our position and listening with equal care to the positions of others.
- Many service boards or committees set aside a portion of their agenda for open forums, when you can speak your own mind on issues before the body.

From: Twelve Concepts for Narcotics Anonymous Service – Overview

A Grateful Addict will never use.

"As long as we maintain an attitude of thankfulness for being clean, we find it is easier to remain clean. The best way to express gratitude is by carrying the message of our experience, strength and hope to the still-suffering addict." Basic Text pg. 86

- · A change in perspective through the steps
- Being able to freely be myself and comfortable with who I am
- For no longer being a prisoner to my own self inflicted prison
- For starting at the gym to work on the physical aspect of my recovery and health
- M. Addict 01/15/2007
 - Family support
 - Yoga and Meditation practice
 - Sponsor and other Teachers
 - Health
 - 5 senses

K. Addict 12/02/2020

- making time to relax for an hour after work
- for staying on top of my school stuff today even though it was frustrating
- for girl time with women and for making a new meeting
- F. Addict 01/27/2022
- Friendships I've cultivated today
- A loving and caring higher power
- The program of Narcotics Anonymous
- A. Addict 02/17/2022
 - The relationships I have in my life
 - To be able to be trusted and respected
 - To be excited about my future
 - J. Addict 12/27/20
- For my new sponsor, it's just an automatic click. We're already laughing and planning girls days to get closer.
- For getting my car officially
- To be able to save more money
- My Chief of Staff for seeing potential in me.
- S. Addict 07/05/2024

- God in my life
- My recovery
- My family
- So much love from friends
- Everglades National park
- Service

C. Addict 02/20/2005



Upcoming Events





Upcoming Events



To be included in upcoming issues of this Newsletter:

Please send any subcommittee meeting dates, times, and meeting locations to newsletter@namiami.org



Boca Black Box Center for the Arts: 8221 Glades Rd Suite #10, Boca Raton, FL 33434



Local Annoucements

¿TINENES PROBLEMAS CON LAS DROGAS?



NOSOTROS PODEMOS AYUDARTE!

¡LIBRE, GRATUITO Y CONFIDENCIAL! (305) 265-9955

GRUPOS DEL ÁREA DE HABLA HISPANA DEL SUR DE LA FLORIDA

EL VIAJE CONTINUA

DOMINGO 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM 4425 HOLLYWOOD BLVD HOLLYWOOD FL 33022

SOMOS UN MILAGRO

DOMINGO 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
MARTES 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
MIÉRCOLES REUNIÓN
VIRTUAL 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
ZOOM ID:7317740756
VIERNES 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
SABADO 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
38 CURTIS PARKWAY
MIAMI SPRINGS 33166

POCO A POCO

LUNES 7:45 PM - 8:45 PM JUEVES 7:45 PM - 8:45 PM 7190 SUNSET DRIVE MIAMI 33413

www.na.org

RENACIMIENTO

VIERNES 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM 7190 SUNSET DRIVE MIAMI 33413

SABADO GIGANTE

SÁBADOS 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM 7190 SUNSET DRIVE MIAMI 33143

CONECTADOS

MIERCOLES 8:15 PM - 9:15 PM 6600 SW 62ND AVE. SOUTH MIAMI, FL 33143





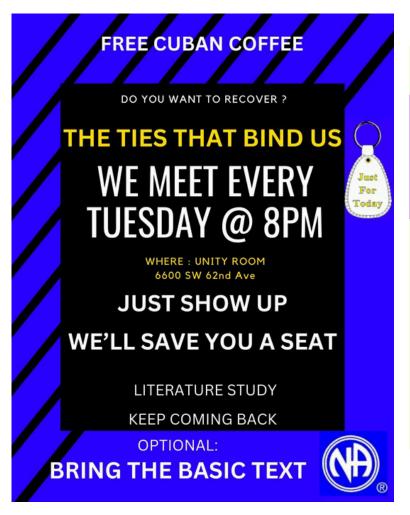
www.ahhfina.com

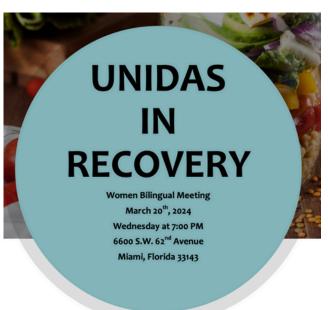
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Local Annoucements







Location: 7190 Sunset Dr Time: 9:00 p.m.

**LOCATION NOT AFFILIATED W NA

NEW MEETING

<u>T.G.I.F</u>

Thank God It's Friday

WHERE: ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

TIKI HUT 10700 SW 56 ST. Miami, Fl. 33165

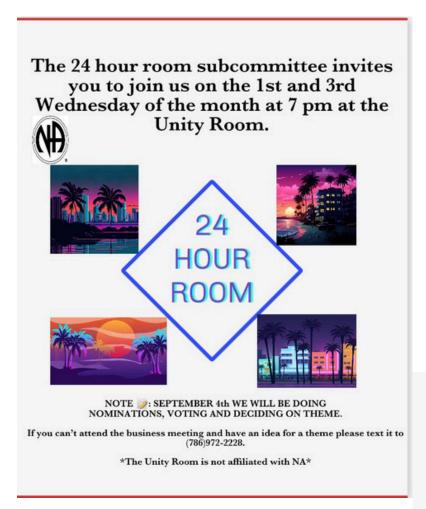
DAY: EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM

TIME: 8:00PM-9:00PM

WE ARE IN NEED OF TRUSTED SERVANTS AND SUPPORT PLEASE COME AND JOIN US.

THIS GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE CHURCH

Get Involved



Please send any subcommittee meeting flyers to newsletter@namiami.org to be included in upcoming newsletter issues

South Florida Regional Convention of Narcotics Anonymous

Sept. 20th -22nd, 2024 The Hyatt in Downtown Miami 400 S, 400 SE 2nd Ave, Miami FI, 33131

Book Now!





Get Involved : Local Service Committee Meetings



Needs Volunteers and Speakers

We Meet The Third
Wednesday of Every Month at
7:30pm in The Library.



South Miami Lutheran Church 7190 SW 72nd St Miami, FL 33143

For More Information, Contact: ANGEL C #954-817-6852 TONY L #786-879-3347

*NA Is Not Affiliated With This Location

To be included in upcoming issues of this Newsletter: Please send any subcommittee meeting dates, times, and meeting locations to newsletter@namiami.org

Get Involved : Local Service Committee Meetings

Public Relations Subcommittee

meets @ 7pm
The last Sunday of every Month
in the Library at South Miami Lutheran
Church 7190 Sunset Dr, Miami, FL 33143

Activities Subcommittee

meets @ 7:15pm
Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the Month
in the Library at South Miami Lutheran
Church 7190 Sunset Dr, Miami, FL 33143

How to Get Involved: Local Service Committees Meetings SouthDade Area Newsletter

Join us in doing service! Committee Meets @ 7pm Every Last Sunday of the Month

In the Library @ South Miami Lutheran Church 7190 Sunset Dr, Miami, FL 33143

> *South Miami Lutheran Church not affiliiated with NA

Contact us at Newsletter@namiami.org

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Happy Anniversary:

Roxy - 09/02/2021

Jorgie - 09/04/2022

Alejandro P - 09/07/2019

Danielle S - 09/07/2023

David - 09/12/2022

Tony F - 09/18/2023

Carson B - 09/20/2019

Tony L - 09/28/2018

Daniel L - 09/29/2021

Fermina - 09/29/2004

The material for this Newsletter is created and edited by NA members for every NA member. The Twelve Traditions of NA were used to edit this newsletter. If you find improper misrepresentation of our traditions please contact the editor at newsletter@namiami.org