

# 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.



By A. Addict 06/21/2024



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# Step of the Month: Step 2 Experience

"We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

I'm an addict. I want to first start with this as a "SPIRITUAL NOT RELIGIOUS PROGRAM." Apologies for the caps, lol. My journey with Step 2 has been one of growth. When I came to Narcotics Anonymous, I didn't know anything about having a power greater than myself. I lived believing I was in power and in control of everything that happened. That has changed over the years.

"We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." At first, that power was the meetings I attended and their messages. I always got exactly what I needed to hear when I went to meetings I didn't want to attend. Then that power switched to my step work. Every time I go through a rough moment. The step work relates to what I'm going through in my life. Today, I'm with a power greater than myself. I have a higher power that I believe in, and when I go through life on life's terms; I have ways of connecting to that power. Sometimes, it gives me peace; other times, I feel nothing and continue my day with a bit of tolerance.

Hope is the spiritual principle of Step 2. My hope today regarding step 2 is that I don't have to get high to get that. When I was using, I believed using was the solution to everything on how to deal with life. My denial did not let me see my life was in shambles. I was alone and had no will to live. Now I can say when I'm low on hope, I have the people in Narcotics Anonymous, the meetings, my step work, my sponsor, and most importantly, a power greater than myself of my choice. I have to decide what a power greater than myself can be. Continues on Page 3



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This last step works. I do have a God of my understanding through a faith that I practice. However, I got to describe the characteristics of it and what that power represents in my recovery. The higher power of my understanding embodies the spiritual principles of Narcotics Anonymous. It gives me hope to practice these principles in every area of my life—One Day at a Time. By E. Addict 10/18/2023

## **Tradition of the Month: Tradition 2**

"For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority- a loving God as he may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

Tradition two isn't possible without the principle of Unity and Anonymity that comes from Tradition One. Without unity and other addicts, there is no "group conscience." Even more so, without the unity found in our first tradition that tells us "our common welfare should come first;" being "our purpose," and "personal recovery depends on N.A. unity" meaning, I can't do it alone; it doesn't leave room for anyone else but myself. Experience has proven this, particularly with this addict. I can't stay clean on my own.

Tradition two allows me to further practice these principles not just in service and the immediate group but even on the bigger scale as in everything I do in NA. How do I carry myself? Am I in line with God's Will? "The most powerful way we lead in NA is by example,"that's stated in our Guiding Principles book pg.21 and through my experience, this has bee proven true. It has been other members that I see the application of this tradition in how they carry themselves and do service that inspired this desire of growth in my recovery and the way that I wanted to live.

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My entire life and active addiction were fueled by self-centeredness, selfishness, isolation, and control, and this tradition focuses on the complete opposite. Selflessness, love, surrender, unity, and acceptance. In practicing this tradition, it empowers me to become a part of rather than apart from. Not just when involved in the physical aspect of service like showing up but the emotional and spiritual side as well. What I mean by that is it allows me to practice humility and remove my own desire and self-will and invite a loving god amongst the conscience of other addicts and to practice the faith I got in my third step that tells me, things will in fact work out and be okay. That even if or when things don't pan out as I'd hope they would have, that I can still honor the conscience of the group with love and acceptance rather than resentment and entitlement.

I also found that for this addict, the practice of Anonymity truly allows me to further practice inviting and allowing a loving god to express himself in our group conscience. It's when I remove my preconceived notions about a member or judgement that I can only then hear their ideas and love for NA. This tradition reminds me that despite our differences of opinion or style, we are ultimately united by our love for NA and our desire and responsibility for our primary purpose. So with this all said, I have learned and I am continuing to learn that this tradition serves such great importance to my recovery and my ability to do service. It renews my relationship with a God of my understanding and reminds me that I am of no authority in Narcotics Anonymous but only a trusted servant, that each of us is necessary in the efforts to continue to further our primary purpose, and that despite our differences; the love we all share is fundamental for our unity and that we can trust "NA to survive, even when growing pains are severe." By M. Addict 01/15/2007



# **Concept of the Month: Concept 2**

"The final responsibility and authority for any services rests with the NA groups."

The groups will have final responsibility for and have authority over the service structure they have created. By fulfilling their responsibility to provide their service structure with the conscience, ideas, people, and money it needs, the groups also exercise their authority. Conversely, the service structure must always look to the groups for support and direction.

From: Twelve Concepts for Narcotics Anonymous Service - Overview

# Personal Experience: Moving in Recovery

While geographical changes have often failed to ward off our using in active addiction, they can be a major component of our recovery journey. Change is difficult. As an addict, I shy away from the unknown, discomfort, and uncertainty. Moving to a new place comes with just about all of these.

I moved to South Dade due to a new opportunity that came about in my life. The freedom of recovery built a foundation for my life upon which I have been able to try new things, learn more about myself, and pursue those lost dreams. I didn't know anyone in South Dade when I moved here. I prepared like I would for any change in my recovery. I leaned into the source of my strength: my higher power, NA as a whole, my sponsor, and my support group. In doing so, I found courage and faith. However, I was also reminded that faith and trust were born out of action. For me, that action included following the simple suggestions that we were given when we first came to NA. Continues on Page 6

It was suggested to me to get a homegroup, attend ninety meetings in ninety days, and get involved! These simple suggestions were equally if not more important in moving to a new area. I have known many addicts who have moved, experienced changes in their lives, or, for any other reason, abandoned the basics of our program. Some make it back to tell about the horrors of revisiting active addiction, and some never make it back at all. I knew this was a real possibility for any addict moving to a new area, but it didn't have to be my story. My sponsor and support group reminded me to immediately get connected. For this addict, that meant going to a meeting every day when I first moved to the area. It meant finding a homegroup as quickly as possible. It meant getting a service position. It also meant continuing to work the twelve steps that afforded me the opportunity to move to begin with.

I did these things. The result was that I hit the ground running. Things were different here. Meetings had a bit of a different feel. There were some differences in the formats. But in the end of the day, the message was the same and the steps and traditions were the same. The concrete, clear message of Narcotics Anonymous was present, and I needed to lean into it to continue my recovery journey. As my life grew and evolved in a new area, I found that there was now an abundance of responsibilities in my life. I'd love to tell you that they fit seamlessly into my newly established routines in this new area, but that is not my lived experience. Life was full. And for me, it was challenging to play the balancing act. Before long I found myself traveling with regularity and finding inconsistency in my meeting attendance in the South Dade Area. Continues on Page 7



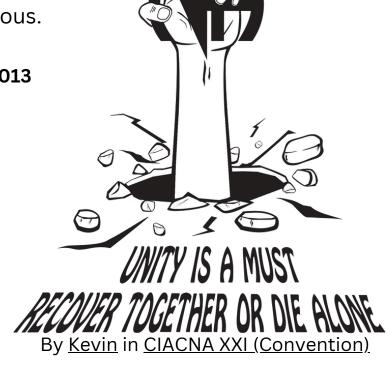
What happened? I had worked so hard to establish new relationships and routines, and suddenly, I felt like an outsider and a newcomer all over again. I felt the old feelings of inadequacy and a lack of faith creep back in. Fear was pushing out faith, and I found myself in dis-ease with my disease. It turns out, building that foundation when I first moved gave me a path to freedom. I had a homegroup where members knew me and noticed when I wasn't there. I had a service position that demanded I show up and prioritize the needs of other addicts before my own. I had a relationship with a higher power who I could lean upon through prayer and meditation. I had a support group in my new area and previous one that could hold me accountable.

In combination with the spiritual principles of the twelve steps, I once again practiced those simple suggestions to find my faith restored, my trust restored, and my serenity restored. One day at a time, just for today, this addict shows up to the best of my ability and leaves the rest to my higher power.

I am forever grateful to the worldwide fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

Never Alone Never Again.

By A. Addict 12/21/2013





# **Upcoming Events**





# **Upcoming Events**







# **Local Annoucements**

#### TINENES PROBLEMAS CON LAS DROGAS?



#### NOSOTROS PODEMOS AYUDARTE!

¡LIBRE, GRATUITO Y CONFIDENCIAL!

### 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

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



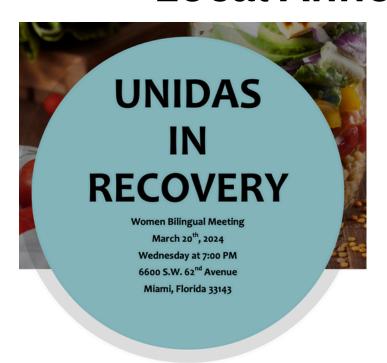


www.ahhfina.com





# **Local Annoucements**



# ONE IS TOO MANY

A new Narcotics Anonymous Meeting in South Dade

When: Saturdays at 3pm

Where: South Miami Lutheran Church-small room 7190 Sunset Drive Miami, FL 33173

Start Date: December 7th

Format: Speaker Meeting Experience, Strength, Hope

All are WELCOME !!!





# **Local Annoucements**







# 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 <a href="mailto:newsletter@namiami.org">newsletter@namiami.org</a>

# Get Involved : Local Service Committee Meetings

# **Public Relations Subcommittee**

meets @ 6:45pm

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



# **Happy Anniversary:**

Jimmy K. - 02/02/1950 Diana R. - 02/02/2020 Nelson M. - 02/04/2002 Lourdes - 02/05/2022 Bridgette C. - 02/06/20 Pamela R. - 02/09/2018 Michael P. - 02/11/2019 Adele - 02/14/2018 Robin S. - 02/14/1999 Jay - 02/14/2008

Jose A. - 02/15/2021 Dusty - 02/16/2022 Jim W. - 02/16/2018 Jeff A. - 02/16/1996 Chip - 02/20/2005 Kristy F. - 02/21/2000 Frank H. - 02/22/2007 Israel J. - 02/23/2007 Vivian A. -02/24/2009 Maria M. - 02/26/1996 John R. - 02/28/2024



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 <a href="mailto:newsletter@namiami.org">newsletter@namiami.org</a>