

The Twelve Traditions of NA

We keep what we have only with vigilance, and just as freedom for the individual comes from the Twelve Steps, so freedom for the group springs from our Traditions. As long as the ties that bind us together are stronger than those that would tear us apart, all will be well.

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA unity.

1. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group con-science. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
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3. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
6. An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Twelve Concepts for NA Service

1. To fulfill our fellowship's primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications.
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.

TASCNA Statement of Purpose

The Tidewater Area Service Committee of Narcotics Anonymous exists to provide the support necessary for groups of NA members to work together for their common good. GSR's are the lifeline that binds the groups together in the performance of our primary purpose. In the spirit of the fellowship, we as individuals seek help from one another to deal with living situations; so, groups can find help from other groups in fulfilling their primary purpose of carrying the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers.

Everything that occurs in the course of NA Service must be motivated by the desire to more successfully carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. We are not and should never be in competition with each other. We work separately and together for our common good. We have learned, painfully, that internal strife cripples our Fellowship; it prevents us from providing the service necessary for growth.

Placing our common welfare above individual interests, we work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Decisions are made based on a loving Higher Power as expressed in our Group Conscience. These principles are the ties that bind us together - as long as they remain stronger than those that would tear us apart, all will be well.