

GSR ORIENTATION

WHY HAVE A GROUP SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR):

Just as "an addict alone is in bad company," the NA group that does not participate in the service structure will most likely struggle without the spiritual support that the ASC has to offer. The participation of the Group Service representative (GSR) and the GSR Alternate at the Area Service Committee (ASC) meeting can make a big difference in the chances of the group's survival.

As stated in the **Narcotics Anonymous Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure (TWGSS)**, GSR's are "the link that binds the groups together in the performance of our primary purpose."

The Informational Pamphlet, The Group (IP no.2) suggests that a GSR have the following qualifications:

- ◆ The willingness and desire to serve
- ◆ A history of recovery in NA (suggested minimum of 1 year clean time)
- ◆ An understanding and working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and twelve Traditions of NA
- ◆ An active participation in the group they are to serve

The GSR is responsible for the following:

- ◆ Attending the ASC meeting regularly
- ◆ Serving as a Member on ASC Subcommittees
- ◆ Serving as a liaison between the group and the area
- ◆ Sharing responsibilities with the GSR Alt.
- ◆ Keeping the group accurately registered with the World Service Office

A GSR Alternate should have the same qualifications with the exception of a suggested 6 months clean time.

The Group Booklet states Alternate GSR's, along with others, also serve on area subcommittees. Subcommittee experience will give Alternate GSR's added perspective on how area services are actually delivered. That perspective will make them more effective area committee participants if their groups ask them later to serve as their GSR.

* We encourage you to take notes, ask questions, participate in discussions, and collect flyers and handouts to be brought back to the Group.

How to Give a GSR Report

At the Area

The GSRs of all the groups attending present group reports at the area meeting that should include the following:

1. Tell what problems, if any, your group is having.
2. Tell specifically what your group attendance is like.
3. Tell if all positions are filled. If not, what positions need to be filled?
4. Is your meeting doing well or does it need support?

If so **what type of support is needed:**

- a. Financial
 - b. More people with recovery need to attend.
 - c. Any other form of support.
5. If you have brought a donation to the area and how much.

A GSR report may also include group news and activities, group problems/ strengths, and location/ time/ format changes.

At the Group

When reporting back to the group, the GSR should cover all the information necessary in a brief, clear, and enthusiastic manner. Use your notes and minutes from the A.S.C. meeting. Your report should include:

- ◆ Other groups and/or subcommittees that need support
- ◆ Other group's news
- ◆ Subcommittee activities
- ◆ Elections/ Vacancies
- ◆ Workshops * (Such as **The Conference Agenda Report**)
- ◆ Conventions
- ◆ Campouts
- ◆ Retreats, etc.
- ◆ Regional and World service information
- ◆ Business that may need a group vote

If a vote from the group is asked for, try to get a vote from the group. If a vote from the group can not be obtained, then ask to be given the group conscience. A group conscience should not be your own opinion, but rather it should be made in the best interest of the group as a whole.

- ◆ Shared solutions to group problems

***The Conference Agenda Report ("The CAR")**

Every other year motions are gathered from around the World concerning business of Narcotics Anonymous. **These motions need to be taken to the group to be voted on.** To get a proper understanding of these motions a workshop will be held at the annual San Diego Imperial Region Learning Conference of Narcotics Anonymous. **It is important that GSRs and GSR Alternates attend this workshop.**

Please remember that all paperwork is the property of the group, not the GSR.