

April 30  
Morning Session  
In Rounds

9:00 am – 10:40 am

### Service System II

This session will be our chance to discuss the models presented in Service System I (these models are presented in the CAT and there will need to be a lot of work done on them before we can actually begin to workshop them with the fellowship), and their implications as well as to strategize about how to have discussion fellowship over the next two years.

In our small discussion workgroups we began the long journey of restructuring our service system.

We are using the same service system that we created in the beginning. The US service system was designed for less than 5000 meetings. We now have 10 times that many. We have to find a way to make our system workable for 50,000+. We have to create a service system for our future that works for everyone.

There is a lot of excitement about changing our system, but many of us still don't know much about the implementation. Over the next two years, we really must try to move in this direction.

Our first group discussion was to workshop the things that were exciting for us and our concerns:

#### **Things we are excited about**

- Opportunity to be involved
- Increase for potential unity
- Improve communication
- Moving towards vision statement
- Regions coming together in one state
- Unification of purpose
- Zonal inclusion
- Flexibility of models

#### **Things we have concerns about**

- Don't understand where in the process
- we come into the process
- Don't understand the need
- Don't understand what's proposed
- Lots of resources used but not much change
- Will struggle to communicate where we're at but nothing will change

- Trying to connect with nearby communities with which we don't have much in common
- Difficult to adequately understand
- How does this structure address language and cultural needs
- Problem with our current service structure may be process not structure
- Worried if US regions no longer have seat at WSC
- Another layer of service

11:00 am – 12:40 pm

In this session we used small groups to workshop two issues:

**What challenges do you think we will face in discussing these models as a fellowship?** – and

**What should we stress to try to show the benefit?**

Question 1:

- Clarity of communication – effectiveness
- Need to develop a better understanding before we can teach
- Resistance to change
- To even get people to be willing to discuss this
- How to present without inserting personal opinion – unbiased presenting of ideas
- Sharing the whole picture not just the benefit for your own region
- Having to overcome – “This is the way we've always done it”

Question 2:

- Stress the impact directly to the addict
- The importance of having everyone involved
- Show the current ineffectiveness of the current service system
- New system is based more in the concepts – steps – traditions
- Presents a proactive approach than reactive
- Stress history of NA's growth and change

In 1953 there was 1 meeting of Narcotics Anonymous – 1960 – 2 meetings, 1963 – 5, 1966 – 10, 1968 – 22 (Canada started NA), 1971 – 77, 1982 – 2700, 1986 – 8300, 1988 – 10,000, 1990 – 14,000, 1992 – 19,000, 1996 – 22,000, 2001 – 29,000, 2002 – 30,000, 2002 – 40,000, 2010 – 53,000

As you can see with the explosion of NA and our service system developed for 5000 meetings, it really is time that we at least opened our minds to a change in our infrastructure.

