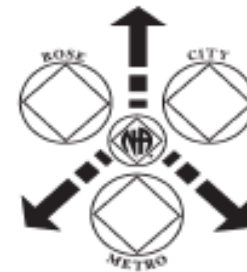


to be sent back to the Areas for guidance. Every member of NA is welcome to participate in any Metro committee or subcommittee meeting.

### **What Services Will Metro Provide?**

It is up to the participating areas to decide what services they want provided by the metro committee. Those services that have been identified for consideration so far are:

- Metro Directory - have a single Metro directory listing all meetings for all three areas.
- Phoneline - a single phone line serving the metropolitan area.
- H&I – A single H&I committee providing meetings to the institutions in the metro area.
- Public Information is also being considered, however at what level is unclear at this time. The areas may want to maintain some PI activities within their area and pass on those that make sense to do at the Metro Level.
- Activities committees are best left at the area level, however Metro will serve as a conduit for the three committees to funnel their communications and to produce a unified Activities at a Glance.
- Metro subcommittees maintain communications with world, region and other areas regarding new and evolving service literature and methods.



## **Rose City Metro Service Committee**

***Everything you wanted to know about Metro but couldn't find anyone to answer!***

*Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.  
(12<sup>th</sup> Step)*

*Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry the message to the addict who still suffers  
(5<sup>th</sup> Tradition)*

*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.  
(1<sup>st</sup> Concept)*

How can we best serve the recovering and still suffering addicts in the Portland Metropolitan Area? The Greater Willamette, Portland and Tualatin Valley Area Service Committees believe that some of these essential services can best be provided through the formation of a Metropolitan Services Committee.

### **Why Metro?**

With the recent division of the Portland Area into three separate areas, Portland, Greater Willamette and Tualatin Valley, the areas began to

question how we could best serve the needs of the addicts in the Portland metropolitan area, based on guidance received from “A Guide to Local Services in NA.”

*“In dividing a larger city that has been served by a single area committee, your NA community may want to consider maintaining the administration of its active service subcommittees under a single body: the metropolitan services committee. This leaves the new area committees free to serve as forums in which their constituent groups can share with and support one another.*

*Administering citywide NA services through a metro committee has a number of potential advantages, among them:*

- *Effective subcommittee teams are not split up. This allows NA to make the best use of its limited volunteer leadership base without diminishing services delivered in any of the new areas.*
- *The expenses involved in administering separate H&I, PI, phonenumber and office services in each of the city’s areas are consolidated, eliminating duplicate costs for the same administrative functions.*
- *Because primary oversight of working subcommittees occurs in only one place, the metro committee, rather than in all of the ASCs, the NA service community requires less time for supervising the subcommittee bureaucracy and has more time to focus directly on the needs and challenges of NA groups.”*

*(A Guide To Local Services in NA, page 73)*

If each area were to operate its own phone line, how would an addict seeking help in the metro area know which number to call? Would the person answering the phone know the closest meeting to refer him or her to?

### **What Happened Next?**

The current metro committee has its origins in a Portland Area ad-hoc committee formed over two years ago which found that the Portland Area was becoming too big to adequately serve all of the groups in the metro area and should be split up, with the resulting Areas providing services together through a metro committee. After the two new areas split off from Portland, representatives from all three areas met to research metro

committees and determine how we could make a metro committee work here.

It was found that metro committees are still fairly new in NA, and that there isn’t much guidance on how to run one. There have been some successes, most notably in Kansas City, however most metro service committees are still in their early stages and have asked us for advice when we sought it from them.

The committee made a recommendation to the areas to proceed with the work of forming a metro committee, and all three areas passed motions to proceed, and the Rose City Metropolitan Service Committee was formed. The committee members have spent the past year working on guidelines and deciding how the committee would be formed and operated and with the recent election of trusted servants feels that it is now ready to begin accepting responsibility for administering the services the areas decide to pass on.

### **How does it work?**

Metro guidelines were developed to ensure that no one area can exert more control than any other. The three area metro representatives take turns acting as facilitator for the monthly meeting and have equal say in the proceedings. All three areas must be represented for any decisions to be made and decisions are made using consensus based decision making.

It is up to the areas to decide what services they wish to be provided at the metro level. The metro committee exists to serve the areas rather than to dictate to them.

Each area will select a service committee representative for the each service provided. Each service subcommittee within the metro is given autonomy to provide the service structure they determine is the best method to provide the service to the areas. Each area is free to continue or discontinue its area level subcommittee as it sees fit.

Areas provide the funding for the services provided by Metro, with the amount to be paid based on the percentage of the total group contributions received by each area. All metro funding requests must be approved by all three areas.

The Metro Committee meets monthly to provide direction to the subcommittees from the Areas and to identify any issues or needs that need