

April 10th, 2022

To: US Regions of Narcotics Anonymous

From: Collaboration of US Zones

Greetings,

We write to update you on the status of the collaboration of the Zonal Forums in the United States. We are also seeking the conscience of your Region regarding steps in moving forward. This package includes a cover letter, Strategic Plan, and Vision and Purpose Statement. It is intended to provide greater clarity of the potential value these efforts can have to Narcotics Anonymous communities in the US. Our desire is to be inclusive and ensure that NA Regions in the US have a voice before these activities go much further.

Background/Initial Survey

This effort emerged from the virtual meetings of the 15 Narcotics Anonymous Zonal Forums from around the world that began in early 2019. As a result of those meetings, representatives of the eight Zonal Forums serving NA Regions in the continental United States and Alaska expressed interest in meeting for the purpose of coordinating efforts. The first meeting in December of 2019 identified many opportunities for Zonal Forums within the US to collaborate.

An initial survey of the Zonal Forums, conducted in August 2020, identified areas where more assistance to local NA communities could be needed. The top three responses were:

- Planning first / create strategic plan
- Public relations / Fellowship development tools
- US Website (including meeting information)

Collaboration of US Zones Vision and Purpose Statement

The attached Vision and Purpose Statement resulted from discussions over several months that included representatives from all eight US Zonal Forums. As the cover letter of that document states, this collaborative is an attempt to become a central hub to collect service requests and act as a portal to communicate with the associated local community. The Vision Statement expresses the intention of coordinating with local service bodies to support local NA communities with training, mentoring, and fulfilling assistance requests.

The Purpose Statement indicates how a project-based, informal process could better gather information and respond to requests in a timely manner. We hope this effort will allow us to harness underutilized resources in a way that serves the fellowship and, ultimately, NA Groups' primary purpose of carrying the message to the addicts who still suffer.

Strategic Plan

A strategic plan was developed over the course of seven meetings with participants from each zone and interested members. It identified several goals as high priorities. Details of how these goals can be accomplished by a Collaborative US Zonal Forums are found in the attached Strategic Plan.

- Goal 1. Increase public awareness of NA, how to contact us, and how to get information about recovery of drug addiction throughout all the Regions in the US.
- Goal 2. Improve access to workshops and training material.
- Goal 3. Foster a common understanding of the purpose of Fellowship Development to strengthen our Groups, build our service structure and grow our local NA communities.

Examples of the work these three goals could produce are:

1. US Website with the ability to link to local NA regions and areas
2. Service material on Fellowship Development that could help rebuild or revitalize local services and committees such as H&I, Outreach, and Public Relations
3. Ongoing workshops for our local fellowship such as PR 101, Website basics, Rebuilding H&I, etc.

Does your Region Support our proposed actions?

Having concluded preliminary work on the Collaboration of US Zones, we are ready to move forward with the actions envisioned in the Vision and Purpose Statement and in the Strategic Plan. Before doing so, however, we need to hear from the NA Regions in the United States. Does your region support the activities that have been outlined?

To determine this, we created a simple poll asking the regions of the US if they support forming this service body to collaborate. This service body would not be a part of the delegation stream between groups and world. Please respond to this poll by November 15th, 2022.

If there is support by the regions for moving forward, we can then look at getting to work implementing our strategic plan.

Thank you for your time and service,
US Collaboration of Zones
Strategic Plan Task Team