

## **October Area Service Committee**

Next Area Meeting: November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Moment of Silence: Yes

Serenity Prayer: Yes

12 Traditions: Jim C.

12 Concepts: Pat B.

Service Prayer: Holly B.

Welcome anyone new to AREA: Olivia, Pat, Brad

**New Groups:** NU Way in Recovery (Wellston), The Lie is Dead (Baldwin)

**Open Positions:** Treasurer, Co-treasurer, Co-facilitator

Minutes approved: Yes

**Attendees:** (See attendance sheet)

### **Trusted Servant Reports:**

#### **Secretary Report:**

Minutes were submitted and approved.

Thank you for letting me serve.

-Kristin P.

#### **Treasure Report:**

No report at this time

#### **RCM Report:**

Hey family! Here is the report from last month's region meeting.

#### **Treasurer**

Our income for the month of August was \$146.33 and our expenses were \$995.05.

The income for the month of September was \$6,152.82. \$5,857.58 of that came from MRCNA.

Our total expenses were \$1,652.84.

We'll be paying \$1,000 some this month to Shaunty Creek for the next MRCNA. So, with the

outstanding checks our balance is \$5,821.66.

## **RD**

Anthony gave us a preliminary recap on the World Convention (WCNA 38) in Washington, DC. Roughly 18,000 members attended the World Convention (WCNA 38), about 17,000 paid for registration. This was about 7,000 less than the projection and 4,000 less than the previous World Convention in Orlando. This will not deplete the cash reserves of NA World Services but the impact on finances is on the order of \$1 Million less than projected. World Board member Jack reminded us that direct recurring contributions from individual members can be set up at <http://na.org/give> The Interim Conference Agenda Report / Conference Approval Track (CAR/CAT) is scheduled to be released on November 24 of this year.

## **MRCNA**

MRCNA held its elections and Brett W is the new chairperson and Joanie B is co-chair. All positions were filled except Convention Information and Co-Treasurer. The budgets will be submitted in December at the regional meeting for the RCM's and MRSC body to discuss. Currently they had income of \$2800 for August from pre-registrations throughout the weekend of MRCNA. The current balance is \$18,036.98. MSO The MSO rep from region didn't attend the last meeting but put the minutes and reports in the report to region this month. After reading the MSO Board of Directors Chairperson Report from August 20, 2024, I have questions I'll be asking at the next region meeting regarding this report. Here is the section I have questions about

Our office faces hurdles to overcome, many of them natural consequences of prior mis-steps. It is imperative that we learn from mistakes and not repeat them. MSO faced almost certain collapse and disillusion just prior to and through COVID. During that time a small handful of members made extraordinary sacrifices to keep us open. Records from that period are spotty and, in some cases, non-existent. Major problems were (1) a 25K+ credit card balance, (2) a 30K+ outstanding balance with NAWS, (3) a 30K+ outstanding sales tax liability, (4) inability to maintain essential inventory for sales and (5) a loss of web sales. diligent effort we have eliminated (1), (2),(4) &(5) and are actively engaging with the State of Michigan to address #(3). In the meantime, we have expanded our volunteer staff from 2 to 5, expanded our hours of operation to include Tuesdays and expanded our customer base to include several new groups, areas & regions. Several members approached me about potential disruption of Shared Service funding from the Metro Detroit Region. I am dismayed to hear claims of impropriety leveled against MSO. I have never witnessed indecent billing and find no record of such. If there were mistakes, they would have been simply that, mistakes. A Regional motion was made approving exactly how MDRNA would fund MSO through Shared Services billing. To my knowledge billing complies with formulas within that motion. Prior to that motion agreements are harder to find, perhaps less clearly documented. There were cases where specific motions passed for funding of specific MSO projects when MDRNA was more cash positive. We understand that as fiscal health at the Region wanes, funding services may need to be altered. MSO will abide by motions adopted at MDRSCNA.

## **PR**

Narcotics Anonymous World Service/NAWS:

PR Webinar will be held 10/24. I sent information to all area PR Chairs but please let them know!

## **CONTACT PROFESSIONALS/EVENTS**

Attended CMHA Annual Conference SUD Co-occurring Conference Sep 16-17 Novi. There were over 800 in attendance and we had a lot of action at our table! We had a NA Meeting at this event and the meeting was listed on their Agenda. We had 12 NA members at the meeting and a lot of gratitude was shown to NA for having the meeting! Kudos to a GR Home group on Sunday as a provider said that their younger clients love the meeting! NA invited to Indian Tribal Opioid Summit 10/27-28 National Event held at Soaring Eagle casino. Met with MDOC and they would like a starter kit for the Michigan Prisons.

## **Ad Hoc (Guidelines)**

We held our RCM meeting yesterday, Sat Oct 5, and were fortunate to have 3 RCMs present to ask questions and provide feedback. The goal of this meeting was to go over the guidelines with RCMs to present changes.

Our next step is to email the Guidelines Draft document to each area RCM or active NA member to collect as much feedback as possible.

## **RCM Bring back to your area**

1. Due to winter safety precautions and fiscal responsibility, MRSCNA will be meeting virtually during the months of December and February. We will reach out to the Northwoods area in hopes of planning an in-person meeting for the month of April.
2. Mileage reimbursement rate: We could not collectively reach a decision to change the current policy we have in place regarding the mileage reimbursement rate. Per MRSCNA guidelines, the regional body conducts business using consensus based decision making. Please see attached CBDM basics as a reference.
3. Budgets: Please review and discuss budgets to be discussed at the next MRSCNA meeting. MRSCNA 2024/2025 Budget
4. A Vision of NA Service [https://na.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Vision\\_23-26.p](https://na.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Vision_23-26.p)

Thank you for letting me serve.

Rob C and Katy G

## **Sub-Committee Reports:**

### **Activities:**

Last weekend was our first meeting with a new chair. Four of five positions are filled. Lindsey T. is Treasurer, Michelle A. is Co-Treasurer, Chandra A. is Co-Chair. Hospitality is still an open position, and we are always looking for more involvement and support. No financial changes since last Area meeting. Halloween dance is next weekend (10/26) at Church of the Naz. Preparations are going well. Looking forward to seeing you all there. We want to organize and host Friendsgiving on Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Not sure which homegroup hosted last year and want to check with them before we begin preparations. Hoping to hold this at Jacob's Well with Area approval.

Thank you for letting me serve,  
Josh O.

**Literature:**

Previous Balance: \$1367.39  
Expenses: -\$799.89  
Transfer from Area: \$22.60  
Income: \$299.00  
Total: \$889.10

We have NA Survival Kits for sale now for \$20.00  
Recovery 1<sup>st</sup> owes us \$9.00  
We are requesting a transfer of \$67.92 to account for the 2 Welcome Kits given to the Baldwin and Wellston meetings.

Thank you for letting me serve,  
Jen S.

**Public Relations:**

Hi family, addict named Megan-  
So many good things happening in PR currently! This month our PR subcommittee is moving forward with many community outreach events to let our community know that NA is here and we are ready to help anyone that comes in our doors! We have visited ATS, Safe Harbor and are looking forward to an event with Community Mental Health Association soon. We have gone through a lot of our literature at these recent events and would like to restock. We have a literature budget request for 100 IP's and a few small booklets to have to take to upcoming events. I will have a final budget request amount for you at the end of this report as this is not the only one. We also ordered a set of 100 NA buttons to pass out as NA swag at outreach events which totals \$40.00. I'll show you the design right now! Katy and I covered the cost of these as it was an internet day only deal so we may come to ask for reimbursement when I get a receipt but are fine with covering that cost for a fun piece of NA gear to give out.

We are each settling into our new positions and will be going over the PR Basic Handbook and H&I basics as a subcommittee during our next couple monthly meetings to ensure we are carrying the message of NA in a clear way that aligns with our traditions and our literature. We are asking for 50 copies of the H&I basics booklet to give to our fellows taking in meetings currently as well as new people that want to take meetings into treatment and institutions in the future. This information is imperative to have on hand for those who take in meetings.

We have had some communication and clarification from BATA. They are currently offering us 12 months at the rate of \$1000.00 for the entire year. This would mean we would be paid from November 2024-October 2025. We have already paid \$300.00 towards that would need to pay a balance of \$700.00 to honor that year if we want to go forward. Can we please add this topic to new business?

Our H&I meetings in treatment centers are going well, we seem to have a lot of volunteers with a lot of passion to help carry our message. Our Treatment Facilitates coordinator is in need of a new set of group readings, 5 basic texts and 10 white booklets. We also have a new opportunity to take an H&I panel format meeting into a new facility soon, I will give you an update once we have some set plans of how we will do this and when it will happen. Our Correctional Facilities Coordinator has been working on an official letter to send to GTCJ administration to hopefully convince them to start allowing us to come back into the facility. Many people first get a taste of NA in jail and there are many addicts in need that we could be reaching. We do know that there has been a recent change in who is in charge of approving these programs so were hoping to give the new guy a bit of time to settle in and then we will be approaching him to see what needs to be done to start meetings back up there. I will keep you posted!

I am still currently working on getting our suggested PR guidelines updated with the removal of Webservant from our Subcommittee and a proposal of amendment to the Area guidelines to add it. I was unable to attend the PR subcommittee this past month due to a family issue downstate and had to send a proxy. Once I have approval of the change from my subcommittee in the month of November at our meeting I will bring them to the November ASC meeting for discussion and approval. I apologize for the delay in this, it just wasn't something I could get to this month. I will have it ready to go next month!

With all of the requests above I have a final budget request in the amount of \$164.01 for all of the above mentioned Literature including the 10% shipping.

That's all I have for this month, thank you for letting me serve,  
Megan S.

PR Subcommittee Chairperson

### **Retreat:**

No new information to report at this time. We have been talking about positions and fundraising ideas. We have only had one meeting so far. Open positions: Co-Chair, Hospitality, Programming.

Thank you for letting me serve,  
Jennifer V.

### **Group Reports:**

**Group:** Boardman

GSR: Dean A.

Average Attendance: 40-45

Donation to Area: Pending

Open Positions: GSR Alternative

How is the group going: Amazing, consistently one of the best homegroups you can have.

**Group:** Clean and Free (Ludington)

GSR: -

Average Attendance: 5-10

Donation to Area: \$10.00

Open Positions: None

How is the group going: Good as usual

**Group:** Just for Today (Irons)

GSR: Bob W.

Average Attendance: 10

Donation to Area: \$20.00

Open Positions: 6 positions

How is the group going: OK

**Group:** Lean on Me (Cadillac)

GSR: John P.

Average Attendance: 8-12

Donation to Area: \$25.00

Open Positions: None

How is the group going: Amazing

**Group:** The Lie is Dead (Baldwin)

GSR: Brad S.

Average Attendance: 4-5

Donation to Area: \$20.00

Open Positions: Yes

How is the group going: Getting going, it will get better.

**Group:** The Living Free (Kaleva)

GSR: Jennifer M.

Average Attendance: 6

Donation to Area: -

Open Positions: Every position except GSR and Alternate

How is the group going: Members are working through challenges with anonymity. Group is growing and now has 4 homegroup members.

Decisions on subjects presented to the group:

1. Service position holders – bullying members decrease meeting attendance.
2. Teen NA- Desire in the area (Manistee County)
3. Open for visitors – Zoom option?

**Group:** Living in Harmony (Kalkaska)

GSR: -

Average Attendance: 3-6

Donation to Area: -

Open Positions: All

How is the group going: Fantastic, slowly growing. Best NA group in Kalkaska County.

**Group:** Lost Dreams Awaken (Brethren)

GSR: Bob W.

Average Attendance: 10

Donation to Area: \$6.00

Open Positions: 4

How is the group going: Steady, but could always use support.

**Group:** New Attitudes

GSR: Jim C.

Average Attendance: 8

Donation to Area: \$20.00

Open Positions: None

How is the group going: Group is doing well. We continue to bring an atmosphere of recovery to the newcomer.

**Group:** New Freedom

GSR: John P.

Average Attendance: 10-15

Donation to Area: \$50.00

Open Positions: None

How is the group going: Kicking ass.

**Group:** Never Alone

GSR: Adam N. – Jen S. as proxy

Average Attendance: 5

Donation to Group: \$10.00

**Group:** NU Way in Recovery

GSR: Bob W. temporary

Average Attendance: 7

Donation to Area: \$6.00

Open Positions: Secretary and Co-Secretary

How is the group going: Swimmingly. Attendance has been good, newcomers and old-timers alike.

Decisions on subjects presented to the group: Working on making sure the basic text gets read.

Subjects brought to Area from the group: Would love to see the area support our group. Come tell us how the steps worked for them.

**Group:** Kingsley Rock'n Recovery

GSR: Travis D.

Average Attendance: 20

Donation to Area: -

Open Positions: GSR Alternate

How is the group going: Great!

Subjects brought to Area from the group: 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday (30<sup>th</sup>) Potluck, 6:30 pm before the meeting, Halloween themed.

**Group:** Recovery @ 5<sup>th</sup>/Oak

GSR: Keiffer B.

Average Attendance: 12

Donation to Area: -

How is the group going: Group is going well, consistent. A lot of new members showing willingness to be involved.

**Group:** Search for Serenity

GSR: -

Average Attendance: 10-20

Donation to Area: -

Any open positions: All

How is the group going: OK

**Group:** WinR+

GSR: OPEN (Megan S. proxy)

Average Attendance: 9

Donation to Area: \$25.00

Open Positions: GSR

How is the group going: Well! Attendance is a bit down but we are staying afloat with homegroup members. Thank you to all who attended our 25 year anniversary party!



### **Budget Request:**

- Literature request transfer of **\$67.92** for Welcome Kits that were handed out to Wellston and Baldwin meetings. **(TABLED)**
- Public Relations requests **\$164.01** for 100 IP's and small booklets, 100 NA buttons/swag (\$40), 50 H&I Basics Booklets for those who take meetings to the treatment facilities. **AREA approved.**
- Public Relations **\$700** to BATA for advertisement starting November 1<sup>st</sup> for 1 year. **(TABLED until NOVEMBER)**

### **Old Business:**

- Zoom at AREA **(tabled until a web servant is elected)**

### **New Business:**

- Jen S. has willingness to be Treasurer. Area voted Yes! Jen is the new Treasurer.
- Dean has willingness to be Co-Facilitator. Area voted Yes! Dean is the new Co-Facilitator.
- How to handle intimidating behavior at meetings – Predatory Behavior pamphlet (Florida Regional Committee), discussion of having fellowship outreach attend the meeting.
- Jacobs Well for Friendsgiving – Josh will contact Recovery 1<sup>st</sup> GSR (Sally) to use the facility.
- Northwest Michigan Area Inventory- Email [nwareana@gmail.com](mailto:nwareana@gmail.com) will be utilized for communication of new business to add to the AREA agenda. New business to be added to the agenda should be emailed 7 days prior to the meeting. 3 days prior to Area meeting the agenda will be emailed to the contact list. Area Facilitator and Secretary will work together on this new process.
- Area will go over Inventory Item #5 of ADHOC at November meeting.

**Subjects to take to the groups:**

**Next Meeting:** November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
4:00 pm Jacob's Well

**Close**

Thank you for letting me serve.  
Kristin P., Area Secretary