

Concepts process - On April 12, 1989, "The Twelve *Principles of Service for Narcotics Anonymous*"--was released for fellowship examination and discussion.

Date April 12, 1989

Re: The Twelve Principles of Service for Narcotics Anonymous

1. The final responsibility and authority for N.A services rests with the N.A groups.
2. The groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to develop and maintain services on behalf of N.A. as a whole.
3. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which a loving God influences our decisions. It is not, itself, a decision-making mechanism.
4. Skilled leadership is highly valued at every level of N.A service. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. Each service responsibility must be balanced by a carefully defined service authority.
6. The "principle of decision" provides that trusted servants responsible for the fulfillment of particular N.A. services be given the authority to use their best judgment in carrying out their duties.
7. The "principle of participation" allows all those entrusted with responsibility for our services to take part in the decision-making processes affecting those services.
8. The "principle of appeal" insures that minority opinion will be carefully considered in the decision-making process.
9. The "principle of petition" provides that any member of our service structure may, without fear of reprisal, make petition for the redress of a personal grievance against those exercising delegated authority.
10. The final point of decision should be clearly defined for each responsibility. Two-headed management within the N.A service structure should be avoided at all times.
11. At all levels, the N.A. service structure should take care never to accumulate funds beyond a prudent financial reserve.
12. No one element of our service structure should have unqualified authority over any other. Our structure at all levels is one of service, never of government.

As a result of input, gathered primarily from world services, they were revised and released for review by the fellowship in September of 1989.

1990 CAR

To: The Fellowship

From: Reuben Farris, Chairperson - WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A Service

The Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service

This work has undergone significant revision since its presentation to the 1989 WSC, when it was entitled the "Twelve Principles of Service." Much of the revision was the result of input received at a meeting of the committee in July of 1989 with members of the Joint Administrative Committee [JAC], World Service Board of Trustees, and WSO Board of

Directors, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Input from this meeting was considered by the committee in its final draft, entitled "Twelve Concepts for N.A Service," which was mailed to the fellowship in September 1989.

It should be made clear that while the input from the trustees, WSO directors, and members of the JAC was considered valuable by the committee, any decisions regarding our final drafts were solely the responsibility of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A Service.

Date: September 19, 1989 (160 days after the 12 Principles were released)

Re: Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service

1. The responsibility and authority for N.A. services rests ultimately with the N.A. groups.
2. The N.A. groups delegate to the service structure the responsibility to develop and maintain services on behalf of N.A. as a whole.
3. Each service responsibility must be matched by a carefully defined service authority.
4. For each responsibility, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
5. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which a loving God influences our decisions.
6. Leadership qualities are highly valued, and should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
7. Our service boards and committees ought to be given the ability to determine which decisions fall within their own defined authority and which will be brought back to the delegating body for further consultation.
8. All those entrusted with substantial responsibility for our services should take part in the decision-making processes affecting those services.
9. Our service boards and committees have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of our service structure may, without fear of reprisal, make a petition for the redress of a personal grievance.
11. At all levels, the N.A. service structure should take care never to accumulate funds beyond those sufficient to operate.
12. Our structure at all levels is one of service, never of government. No one element of our service structure should have unqualified authority over any other.

They were now titled the Twelve Concepts for NA Service. A considerable amount of input was received by mail, and workshops were held to obtain input first-hand. As a result of the input received and the discussions from those workshops, the concepts took on a slightly different form and the accompanying essays were virtually rewritten from scratch.

This effort resulted in the final-review form of the concepts, which was released in March 1991 for a last round of fellowship review.

1991 CAR

The Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service

This work has undergone additional significant revision since its presentation to the fellowship in September of 1989. Much of this revision was the result of input received at the six multi-regional U.S. workshops, and input from individual members and committees from around the world. The committee held four meetings after the conclusion of the workshops to factor in the input received from all sources.

The input resulted in the wording of some of the concepts being changed, and all of the accompanying essays being revised. We felt strongly that the fellowship needed an opportunity to provide input on the revised concepts, prior to them being presented in an approval form. As a result, we will be presenting the final review version of- the Twelve Concepts, for fellowship consideration, by or before the conference in April. We are proposing September 1, 1991 as the deadline for input on this version of the concepts. After that date, we propose to factor in the input received, and present the approval version of the concepts by or before January 1992. We will also place the approval version of the Twelve Concepts for N.A Service in the 1992 Conference Agenda Report, for action by the conference in April 1992.

551 Days = 1 Year, 6 Months, 5 Days later - 12 Concepts final input form

Date: March 24, 1991 – Input due by Sept. 1, 1991 (161 days)

Re: Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service

1. To fulfill our fellowship's primary purpose, the N.A. groups have joined together to create a structure which develops and maintains services on behalf of N.A. as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for N.A. services rests with the N.A. groups.
3. The N.A. groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility entrusted to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. Trusted servants with substantial responsibility for our services should take part in the decision-making processes affecting those services.
8. The integrity and effectiveness of our service structure depend on regular communication.
9. Our service boards and committees have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service board or committee can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.

11. N.A. funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.

The input received was then considered and the approval form of the Twelve Concepts for NA Service was completed in November 1991.

1992 CAR

[Motion] #3. To approve the booklet, "Twelve Concepts for NA Service"
Intent: Adoption of this motion will place the booklet, Twelve Concepts for NA Service, in the WSO inventory as World Service Conference-approved literature.

Financial impact: No direct financial impact.

2 Months later - 12 Concepts approval form

1. 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.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications.
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.

April 12, 1989 **First Publication**

November 1, 1991 **Approval Form**

933 Days = 2 Years, 6 Months, 20 Days