

The World Service Conference and the Conference Agenda Report

The World Service Conference (WSC) is not an entity, it is an event—a coming together where the voice of NA as a whole is expressed on issues and concerns affecting our worldwide fellowship. Every two years—guided by our Twelve Traditions and Concepts—regional delegates, the World Board, and the executive director of the **World Service Office (WSO)** meet to discuss questions of significance to the NA Fellowship.

The WSC is not just a collection of regions; its concerns are greater than just the sum of its parts. The WSC is a forum where the business of the meeting is the **common welfare of NA as a whole**. The purpose of the **World Service Conference** is to be supportive of the fellowship and to define and take action according to the collective group conscience of **Narcotics Anonymous worldwide**.

The Conference Agenda Report (CAR) contains proposals and motions from regions and the World Board on which the fellowship is asked to form a fellowship-wide group conscience, which will be discussed at the WSC. The **World Board (WB)** includes recommendations and statements of financial impact for each motion.

One copy is mailed to each conference participant and to each region's mailing address. NA members may purchase additional copies from the WSO at a price established based on the cost of production and distribution. The **CAR** also includes a glossary for those less familiar with terms commonly used in world services.

The **Conference Approval Track (CAT)** is mailed to conference participants the January before the WSC. In the past, all of this material was included in the CAR. In response to groups' requests to make the CAR more relevant to their purpose and needs, however, the CAT was developed and includes service, strategic planning, project plan, and budgetary material. An overview of the CAT material is also included in the CAR.

The **Conference Report** is released immediately before each WSC and contains information about the status of major projects, challenges and successes, and suggestions for new work. Regional reports, submitted by RDs, are also included and convey information about the regions such as number of groups and meetings, service activities, challenges, and specific experiences that may benefit other regions and/or world services. Zonal forums may also submit written reports for distribution. Our own Northeast Zonal Forum submits a Zonal report.

The World Service Conference (WSC) is held every two years, takes place the last week in April within 7 miles of the World Service Office

The **WSC** is composed of Regional Delegates, World Board members, the NAWS Executive Director and also includes the **Human Resource Panel** and up to two WSC **Co-facilitators**. NAWS support is provided by the **World Service Office (WSO)** staff. In addition, several translators are provided for the non English speaking delegates. There are also a few special workers including a **Parliamentarian**, an expert consultant who advises the Co Facilitators and WSC members on matters of parliamentary procedure. The total is approximately **250 people**.

The first World Service Conference was held in conjunction with the sixth World Convention in Ventura, California in 1976. Today's Conference begins with an orientation and community-building session, and includes old and new business sessions, reports and presentations, interactive workshops, elections, new project ideas, lively discussion, budget review and approval, singing, cheering, and, of course, recovery!

The day starts with a 7:00am recovery meeting for those that choose. Breakfast is from 7am to 8:45am and the Conference starts at 9:00am. The typical workday with daytime and nighttime session runs 12 hours with breaks for lunch and dinner, although I have been at the WSC when we worked up to midnight (15) hours on some days in order to get through the work. **NA recovery meetings** are held in the morning at 7:00 am, as well as in the evening when the Conference adjourns, each day!