**CoDA SERVICE CONFERENCE (CSC) ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT 2017/2018**

**ISSUES MEDIATION COMMITTEE (IMC)**

CURRENT MEMBERS:

Gail S. (NV – Nevada) (Chair) - Joined 2014 CSC

Greg B. (MN - Minnesota) - Joined 2016 CSC

Paul N. (GA -Georgia) (VEL – Voting Entity Liaison) - Joined 2016 CSC

Liliana R. (Colombia) - Joined 2016
Andrea S (Italy) - joined 2017 CSC

Steve S. (FL – Florida) - joined 2017 CSC - (Vice VEL)
Darlene H. (SoCAL) - joined 2017 CSC

Resigned:

Marijke L (South Africa) - joined 2017 CSC

Board Liaison: Mary I (NC – North Carolina)

Back up Board Liaison: Jen L (AZ – Arizona)

The Issues Meditation Committee continued to meet monthly on the third Sunday (and whenever necessary) by teleconference call and to go over various specific issues. We did not have a f2f (Face to Face) this year.

**ISSUES MEDIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

The 2018 Issues Mediation Committee (IMC) was elected at the 2017 CSC in October.

The members voted in were:

* Returning members – Gail S. (4th year), Greg B., Paul N. and Liliana R
* New 2018 Members – Andrea S, Steve S, Darlene H, Marijke L.
* Resigned – Marijke L.

**IMC 2018 CASES:**

* We are happy to report that while IMC did receive a number of requests for assistance at the local levels, none of those issues prompted actual mediation cases. We were able to assist the parties to resolve their issues without needing to escalate to becoming a “case”.
* There are no unresolved cases from prior year(s).
* In 2013 IMC created “Dealing with Disagreements Process” to assist the still suffering codependents at all levels of service to use to open up healthy dialogue to resolve their challenge(s). This year upon suggestion by a former IMC member, we created and posted on the CoDA.org website a “Dealing with Disagreements” printable brochure
* Link [http://coda.org/default/assets/File/Literature/Dealing With Disagreements TriFold.pdf](http://coda.org/default/assets/File/Literature/Dealing%20With%20Disagreements%20TriFold.pdf)

**VOTING ENTITY SPLIT:**

There was a request submitted for Voting Entity Division/Split. This is still undergoing review and consideration.

**VOTING ENTITY ISSUES (VEI’s):**

**Definition:**

* Voting Entity Issues are those issues that are formed as a result of a group conscience process at the Voting Entity level.
* They are not submitted in Motion form since they are usually assigned either to the Board or to a Committee for further action

**VOTING ENTITY ISSUES (VEI’s) assigned at 2017 CSC:**

**4895 – 17022 – AZ (Arizona)**
Assigned to: Sent directly to the CSC floor
Request: We move that the annual CSC/ICC flyer and online registration be published on the website bilingually in English and Spanish, using the phrase "English speaking conference" if needed.
Outcome: Passed unanimously.

**4896 – 17023 – AZ (Arizona)**
Assigned to: Literature Committee
Request: Pealing the Onion - add to title "Add the subtitle “Codependents Look at Love, Sex and Relationship Addiction and Avoidance” on the cover."
Outcome: Denied by committee

**4897 – 17024 - PA/Colombia (Pennsylvania)**
Assigned to: Literature Committee
Request: That in both versions of the Welcome the words “and/or other” be inserted between the word “family” and the word “system.” Outcome: Denied by committee

**4898 – 17025 – SoCal (Southern California)**
Assigned to: Board
Request: Transparency concerning the decision that was made to not make the commemorative coin available to 2016 CSC/ICC.
Outcome: Formal response from the board can be viewed on QSR.Q4.2017 on final page of said QSR.

**4899 – 17026 – MA (Massachusetts)**
Assigned to: Sent to the CSC floor sent.
Request: Add to the FSM Part l to the section on Voting Entities. “That no State, Country, or Voting Entity be considered to have surrendered their rights to Representation and Voting at the CoDA, Inc. Service Conference (in spite of any affiliation) without having surrendered those rights in writing to CoDA, Inc."
Outcome: Passed with 2/3 vote - Motion Carried.

**4900 – 17027 – CO (Colorado)**
Assigned to: Sent to floor. Tabled last year.
Request: We move that the Colorado CoDA Prayer be re- named to the "CoDA Recovery Prayer" and become Conference approved.
Outcome: 2/3 vote - Motion Carried

**4901 – 17028 – CO (Colorado)**
Assigned to: Literature Committee.
Request: Add a new "Pattern and Characteristic" under 'Low Self-esteem Patterns. “Codependents often guess at what normal is.”
Outcome: Denied by committee.

Thank you CoDA Fellowship for electing us and allowing each of us to do service on this committee.

IMC will continue to review the Quarterly Service Reports (QSR) for reference to any assigned Voting Entity Issues (VEI’s).  Board and/or Committees are contacted if there is no reference to their assigned VEI's in their QSR. We encourage those committees that are working on VEI's, to communicate with both the VE and IMC regarding their assigned VEI.

**Voting Entity Liaison (VEL)**

2018 CSC is IMC’s fourth year of development, improving and implementing the role and responsibilities of the VEL.

Information for the TRO was disseminated via emails to general members and Delegates, inviting VE Delegates to apply. The website structure and location of delegate information, including the TRO information, TRO application, delegate check list, and FAQs is difficult to find, redundant, and we believe this needs to be fixed.

In addition to general emails, the VEL built relationships and contacted potential TRO applicants. The VEL recommends that volunteers, throughout the year, be engaged to contact VEs who do not send delegates, and educate them on the importance of sending a Delegate to the CSC as well as the TRO.

Other material including the FAQs, email strategy, VEL job description, and orientation were updated throughout the year with collaboration of IMC members and others.

The VEL and IMC members maintained a strong ongoing support to Delegates and TRO applicants/participants. We, along with all members of CoDA will assist all delegates attending CSC to receive information that will benefit their understanding of our CoDA Service Conference business meeting.  The Voting Entity Liaison can be contacted at imcvel@coda.org.

**TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT OPPORTUNITIES (TRO) PROCESS:**

* The VEL acknowledged all the TRO applications and worked with the requestors to obtain information to help determine their eligibility.
* The IMC then met to award the TRO based on

Eligibility for TRO:

1. A person is eligible to apply if they have been selected by their Voting Entity as a Delegate
2. Priority is given to new attendees/Voting Entity
3. No Voting Entity/Person is eligible more than twice in a lifetime.
4. No Voting Entity will receive the (TRO) in two consecutive years

**2018 CSC TRO recipients:**

(TRO guidelines is 2 international and 3 national).
This year due to only one eligible National applicant, we were able to award one additional International VE delegate.

* **International recipients:**
Ireland – First awarded TRO – Delegate: Laura O
Columbia – Second (last) awarded TRO – Delegate: Emilia A
Netherlands – First awarded TRO – Delegate: Stijn K
* **National recipients:**
PA – Pennsylvania- Second (last) Awarded TRO - Delegate: James K
* **Host TRO recipients:**
2017 MN (Minneapolis) - Delegate: Kyna L
2017 MN (Minneapolis) - Delegate: Greg B

As the Chair of IMC, it has been my pleasure to work with all the members of IMC as well as the board and other committee chair members.  Working with everyone greatly enhanced my recovery.

Thank you CoDA Fellowship for electing us and allowing each of us to do service on this committee.

Yours in Service,

Gail S

IMC Chair

9-9-2018