CoDA Quarterly Service Report

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CoDA Board Report

Soon the National Service Conference will convene in Montreal, Canada. We hope to see a good representation of state Delegates at conference. Please use the enclosed form to register early, and make copies available to any new Delegates who may not receive this mailing.

We have been diligent in continuing the work of the Fellowship as it applies to our duties and responsibilities of office. I am particularly pleased with our progress in communicating in monthly conference calls, and our board's "to do" list.

The board will be having a face-to-face meeting June 8th and 9th in Cleveland Ohio; details can be found on the website. We look forward to our joint conference call with the CoRe board, tentatively scheduled for Saturday June 9th at 10:00am Eastern time. We all feel confident that this type of dialogue is good for the Fellowship in promoting CoDA unity. On behalf of the CoDA Board, we wish you all peace and serenity in your life.

Sincerely,

Tom L.   Chair

CoDA Service Conference Committee

No Report

CoDA Literature Committee

The National Literature Committee (NLC) held an editing meeting in Buffalo, NY from April 19-22. We completed editing Step Ten and Tradition Ten of the Steps and Traditions Workbook, and began editing Step Eleven. We did more work on the CoDA Preamble and made final edits to the CoDA Poster.

The NLC had a lengthy discussion about future projects. In light of this discussion, we are considering a recommendation to the National Service Conference (NSC) that we be given responsibility for the delivery of a revised CoDA Book for the Fellowship. If the NLC makes a final decision to move ahead with this project (at its next meeting in July), and if a proposal is subsequently approved by the NSC this fall, the NLC will focus its energies solely on this project for the next 2-3 year work cycle. NLC members are currently reviewing the CoDA Book with a view to identifying areas in need of revision. At the Buffalo meeting, the NLC voted 6-0 in favor of pursuing this project, and after the

idea was shared with NLC members unable attend the meeting, the group conscience was 8-0 in favor of pursuing the project.

Tony H., the current NLC Chair, offered to chair the group next year. This offer was supported by an 8-0 vote and will be recommended to the NSC in the fall.

With the loss of Marcie L. from the NLC, Kay M. volunteered to lead the In This Moment (ITM) meditation book project. The NLC unanimously approved Kay's offer to lead the ITM project by a vote of 8-0. The NLC's next meeting will be held on July 19-22 in California. This meeting will be devoted to completing Step and Tradition Eleven of the Workbook, completing final edits to the CoDA Preamble, discussing a proposal to the NSC concerning the CoDA Book, and making an initial review of the Common Threads of Codependency project.

Outreach Committee Report

The mail out to facilities to update meeting information went out his month. We sent 183 flyers to the meeting facilities for meetings with last update dates older than 1998. Any meeting with an update older than 1998 will be removed from the web meeting list in July. As stated in the February report, our reasoning in sending the flyer to the facility is that we had a higher return rate with this method last year than sending the flyer to the last known contact. If the flyer is undeliverable to the contact, we still don't know whether the meeting is going on or not. If the flyer is undeliverable to the facility, we still aren't positive that the meeting is gone, but the odds seem much higher. If anyone checks the web and finds that their meeting is not listed, all you have to do is register your meeting again with National (coda.meeting.update@usa.net) or update your meeting information with the 7th Tradition form. One column is for donation information and one column is for contact information updates. Sending in 7th Tradition donations does not update your meeting information and update date in the database, unless you fill out the contact side of the form.

If you want to do service work, have a computer, and like e-mail, we have a volunteer position for you answering info@codependents.org e-mail. You will be given a training period of 4 to 6 weeks, a frequently asked questions document, and an excel sheet to track the types of e-mails you receive for your two-week period. If you have questions, the rest of the committee is willing and able to support and assist you. Send an e-mail to info@codpendents.org, if you are interested.

E-mail answered from October 2000 through April 2001 totaled 629. The breakdown by month is:

Oct 00*	NovDec	Jan	Feb	March	April 01	
130	97	74	92	81	99	90

Topic Breakdown:
About retreats/workshops
Asking about CoDA book study group
Asking about election of board members
Asking about links to other 12 step programs
Asking about step study groups
Asking for information for research/article
Asking for treatment centers
Clarification on issue/problem
CoDA Teen
Existing meeting joining CoDA
General feedback
H&I. Prisons

Looking for a specific CoDA person/group
Meeting in other countries
Meeting information
Meeting info-can't access search engine
Meeting info-question about info on web
Needing starter packet
Need 7th Tradition form

Teens

See ITI

CoDA Convention Committee

No Report

Service Structure Committee

SSC met by phone in February, to review and re-set our priorities. We came to realize that we were overly ambitious in some of our early post-conference planning, and felt the need to regroup in order to be sure we did accomplish the most important of our work. We came away from that meeting with these key priorities:

1)   Review the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, and Charter to see if last year's legal opinion of Fellowship responsibility for the NSC creates the need to change or update any part of them. Several members began a review of these documents right away, and we are pleased and relieved to report that no changes are necessary.

2)   Freshen, revise, and update the Starter Packet, and distribute it in the proper form to CoRe and to Fellowship Services. Allison F. worked with Anita F. and Judi T. on a working team to provide recommendations to SSC prior to the March face to face committee meeting. At that meeting, those of us who were able to attend used that work as a starting point to move forward. We are grateful to the initial work team for helping get us off to a great start and helping us narrow our focus.

3)   Service Concepts enhancement. The CA work team is reviewing and revising the Service Concepts and hopes to complete that work this summer. The team is guided by their own experience, strength, and hope as experienced through their own growth and recovery as they have done service work in CoDA.

4)   Re-assessing our role in the CoDA service community. We realized that we have been so enthusiastic in our work that we may have bordered on taking on tasks that are not appropriate for us. An example of this is that we had planned to write a new set of Conference Procedures. We realized that this is the right of the Conference Committee, and that that committee is best suited to reflect on their own experience to do the job well.

Going forward, we resolve to restrain our eagerness and sometimes codependent desire to be all things to all people, and to allow others the right to do work that is theirs, as we focus on work that is ours. We are grateful to have learned this lesson, and the Chair asks forgiveness from those she may have inadvertently offended when she overstepped her boundaries.

Next Steps - Starter Packet
The Chair, Sheila H., had all the work files on her computer, and was ready to distribute them to the committee for distribution and comment. Sadly, her home and work computer died, almost on the same day. It is not clear how long it will take to recover

those files, though competent professionals are working on it. Let this serve as a reminder to us all - frequent backups are important!

Once those files have been recovered, the full committee will review the work done by the face-to-face team in Houston. We will submit our best efforts to the CoDA Board for review and comments. Once we have come to consensus, we will ask the Board to approve the revised and updated packet for immediate use, since the materials currently being sent out in the Starter Packet are sadly out of date. We hope to complete this work in the next few months.

Any member of the fellowship who has questions or comments, please feel free to contact the SSC Chair, Sheila H., at teacherh1@yahoo.com, via the Phoenix mailing address, or by phone at 617 969 7100 x2517.

All of us on the committee are grateful to be of service, and optimistic that together we produce work of value to the greater fellowship. Our own recovery is enhanced by this work, and we are pleased to grow through our participate in CoDA service.

Sincerely,

Sheila H.   SSC Chair

Website Report

The web team has been busy with new enhancements. We now have an interactive page for updating meeting information. The user fills in the required fields and is prompted to fill in any fields they may have left blank that are mandatory fields. Then once completed, the form is mailed directly to the person who updates the database. This has already increased the amount of meetings that are being updated by a great number. The mandatory fields have helped in that the contract worker does not have to resend an e-mail or place a phone call to get the correct information. We are also working on this same page being used for registering a meeting, but that is still being developed.

The NSC2001 pages are now on the website, under calendar of events. Select flyer at the bottom of the announcement and you will be linked to additional pages. There is a homepage that contains conference flyer, contact information and a registration form to download. Make sure that this information is shared and that a delegate represents your state on September 12, 2001 in Montreal, Canada.

NLC has just sent a questionnaire that can be completed and returned if you would like to participate. Check out the "Help Wanted!" section for their latest effort.

A special thanks to Rick M. and George F. who keep the items you send posted as soon as possible. Keep those items coming, this is your website and we have plenty of room, so let's "Carry the message" by filling these pages.

Submitted by:

Annie R. Website Project

Finance Committee

No Report

Co-Nnections

Submissions to Co-NNections have been slow. We have a total of 12 submissions since the last conference and several "Words of Wisdom".

Eligible for printing: Original stories, poems, artwork and cartoons created by CoDA members that reflect some aspect of recovery from codependency (recovery in other 12 Step programs can be mentioned only peripherally, not as the focus).

Co-NNections On-Line is an ongoing project. It is a way for members to share with each other. Each year just before the National Service Conference all of the articles received and posted on the web site are put into a print edition. The print edition can be purchase through the CoDA literature order form.

Co-NNections On-Line is your On-Line publication it only works with your submissions.

Hospitals & Institutions (H & I) Report

See ITI

Online Support Committee

No Report

CoRe

No Report

Issue Mediation Committee (ITI)

No Report

Fellowship Services

No Report

Ad Hoc Committee

No Report

CSR Time Guidelines

Why does it take so long to get the CSR after the committee chairpersons' deadline?

Here is the CSR timeline.
- Deadline - Committee chair to committee liaison for review of content
- 5 days committee liaison to CSR liaison to spell check and format
- 5 days from CSR liaison to CSR Editor for layout
- 20 days for Editor - Editor to CSR liaison
- 5 days for CSR liaison to Trustees for final review
- 5 days for Trustee review and feedback (any article deemed inappropriate by the Board needs to be pulled from the issue)
- OK to Editor to publish