



# CoDA QUARTERLY SERVICE REPORT

Co-Dependents Anonymous, Inc. PO Box 33577 Phoenix, A.Z. 85067  
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**3rd Quarter 2007**

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## CoDA SERVICE CONFERENCE

The 2007 CSC Committee has been very busy selecting the hotel and making all the arrangements. The hotel is the Holiday Inn – Airport, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. There is a free shuttle from the Ft. Lauderdale Airport to the Holiday Inn.

This is a lovely time of year to come to Florida. So put your flip flops, bathing suit, sun tan lotion in your suitcase and come on down. You are sure to see at least one pink Flamingo, a million dollar Yacht or two, and beautiful sunrise and magnificent sun sets.

Reports from various committees and packet materials will be copied and mailed shortly. The local volunteers are well organized and looking forward to hosting the conference for the first time in Florida. Many are planning to attend.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating a day of Spirituality to bring focus to our mission of the 2007 Service Conference. The day will consist of four long time CoDA members sharing their Experience, Strength and Hope. After the sharing, a Welcome reception is planned at pool side. This provides a great opportunity for all the Delegates, Directors and volunteers to get to know each other.

Conference begins September 26<sup>th</sup> through September 29<sup>th</sup>. Each evening will include an open CoDA meeting at the hotel.

Saturday evening will be a celebration of a successful conference with a banquet. Entertainment will be provided during dinner and after dinner will go into Karaoke and dancing. You will find registration information at [www.coda.org](http://www.coda.org).

Respectfully Submitted,  
2007 CSC Committee

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

In the past quarter, the board has been busy as usual. Some of the items we covered include the following:

Sent out notice to some websites that they must cease using proprietary materials without proper attribution/ permission. We also fielded several requests for assistance handling situations at communities where meetings were not adhering to the Traditions. These requests were referred back to the community where the meeting was held with information pertaining to their responsibility and authority. Each community should handle such matters within the community and our only recourse is to take the offending meeting off our list(s).

CDRS returned the money we had given them to help them start publishing literature. They found that even with help, they could not print their own literature for a small enough price to sell at less than exorbitant rates.

We have hired a new Fellowship Services worker. Joan is in the Phoenix area, as is our new accountant. This allowed us to stop using Gopher, which provides us with a substantial savings per month.

On that note, our Treasurer has made several improvements to our financial picture, streamlining our bank accounts to remove fees and acquiring debit cards that allow quicker and easier payment of some bills. This alleviates a lot of the time involved in turning around requests for supplies and equipment to the actual purchase and payment.

We have had several requests to use our foundation documents in various applications outside of CoDA. Attributions were written and have been added to the docs on the website. SSC is currently considering these for addition to the FSM.

TMC was represented at our face to face meeting last June in Phoenix. We discussed some of the problems around literature translation requests, which are closely tied to publishing, which immediately gets us back to how can small amounts of literature be published in any language at a reasonable cost. One of the things the Board decided it can do is to offer a sliding scale for the royalties we need. This could start as low as 5%. How this will be managed and monitored is still in progress.

In a closely related subject, there is still little information on how printing of documentation can be done on a limited basis (small amounts) for a reasonable cost to the fellowship. Trying to solve this problem is not easy. No one seems to have any ideas on how this can be done. Help is needed in this area. The Board requests that the fellowship explore all avenues they can find to get answers.

Someone in our fellowship must know how to do this or have a friend or acquaintance that knows.

The Website Advisory Group, a task force of the Board, has had 3 chairs this year. We would like to welcome Sheila H as the current /newest chair. She is hard at work taking care of the many details that need to be worked to keep our website in top form.

There is some concern around the apparent lack of movement on the convention. Canada had originally expressed interest in doing the next one, but some things have come up and there is some uncertainty now regarding the feasibility of that

Other than that, I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Board for their generosity of time and their willingness to work on these issues. These folks just jump in to take things that come up. We have not yet had an item left on the table waiting for someone to volunteer. Each item that comes up in every conference call has been handled by at least one member. This is worth more than I can express. Thank you all!

Respectfully submitted,  
Leo C, Chair, board of CoDA, Inc.

### Translation Management Committee (TMC)

The Translation Management Committee is excited to report that we are in the process of negotiating to have the Starter Packet translated into Mandarin Chinese. We have been in contact with CoDA members from many countries, including Turkey, French speaking Canada, the Netherlands and Norway. We will be attending the Service Conference in September, where we hope to gain additional members.

Please consider joining the Translation Management Committee! You don't need to be bilingual, although language skills are welcome.

In Grateful Service,  
Judi T. & Lena S

## WEB COORDINATOR REPORT

I continue to fight against SPAM on the CoDA email system. The SPAM emails continue to range around 1500 per week during this quarter.

The new Fellowship Services worker continues to give great support for meeting changes. So far this year, the FS workers have processed over 800 meeting changes of some sort. The World meeting updater has placed a hold upon updates due to work on the meeting database.

The Web Support Advisory Group (WSAG) continues to group conscience many requests for updates to various documents on the web.

We've had several documents identified as corrupted. We are trying to determine the reason for this corruption. If you try to download any PDF document that is corrupted, please email [webcoordinator@codas.org](mailto:webcoordinator@codas.org) and we will get the document put back up.

The web contractor has completed phase I of enhancements to the meeting database to combine the US and World meetings into one database. We still have a while to wait until the total work is accomplished. We expect the new interface will greatly enhance the search for and update of meetings.

Roy L.  
Web Coordinator

## LITERATURE

The 2007 CoDA Literature Committee (CLC) is in the process of finalizing a number of projects that have been worked on over the past year.

Material in both the *CoDA Book* and the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Workbook* has been updated to reflect the current status of CoDA, Inc. and to address the WA State issue, assigned to CLC, regarding a stated prohibition in CoDA literature on the use of outside literature in meetings.

Additional work on the *CoDA Book*, regarding review and editing of material that was removed from the book some years ago, is in the final stages of completion. This work addresses the TX State issue, assigned to CLC, requesting that this material be considered for reinstatement in the *CoDA Book*.

In response to input from the CoDA Fellowship, the Step Four section of the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Workbook* has also been revised.

A draft of a new *Healthy Meetings* handbook is also in the process of finalization. This project is in response to the New England Intergroup issue, assigned to CLC, requesting that a new handbook be written on the topic of “Healthy Meetings.”

Respectfully submitted,  
CLC chair,  
Laurel H.

## TREASURER’S REPORT

I’m pleased to report that CoDA’s banking services consolidation is complete.

All CoDA “prudent reserve” funds now generate interest income to support our work.

With all contract services centered in the Phoenix area we now have fast, efficient and cost effective handling for expense reimbursements and donations processing.

Fellowship Services functions, like meeting updates, donation receiving and acknowledgements are performed more economically and efficiently.

The use of online bill-pay, e-statement delivery options and more effective use of e-mail has eliminated the multiple cross-country mailings, postal costs and time delays previously necessary to pay a bill or provide a reimbursement.

Paperless archiving and web storage of financial data is being implemented to provide secure online access to CoDA records and documents with continuous backup.

Personally, I am grateful that my service as CoDA Treasurer has become much simpler.

Final note: CoDA’s teleconferencing costs have historically averaged around \$240/mo. Since the first of the year... this has been reduced by about 70%.

Your Board and many CoDA Committees are now **teleconferencing for FREE!**

I’d like to encourage all CoDA Committees, to utilize [www.freeconference.com](http://www.freeconference.com)  
Note that this service uses a long distance (Spencer, IA) dial-in number. Long-distance charges for individual participants are a reimbursable expense.

Be well... Be frugal... Carry the message!

In Service... Jay F.

## HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

### Recent Activity for May, June, July:

E-mails processed-46

Inmate letters processed-15

Standard Packets sent to inmates-7

New Meeting Starter Packet sent-3 (CoRe-Invoice # 624, 627)

Principal Librarian accepts donation of 9 CoDA Books and 9 CoDA Workbooks.

The person I spoke with and is taking responsibility for placement is in charge of 9 institutions (Perryville- Good Year, AZ). Books are allocated by need and room availability.

The following report was received and is shared as Experience, Strength and Hope to the Fellowship at Large.

### San Diego County-CA Co-Dependents Anonymous: Hospitals and Institutions Activity

Present meetings: One meeting per week at the Men's Central Jail in downtown San Diego. Two meetings per week at the Women's Las Colinas Detention Facility in Santee, CA

Over the past 16 years, SDCCoDA has also had meetings at the San Diego YWCA, the Rachel Women's Center, the St. Vincent de Paul Center, and the Girls' Rehabilitation Facility. Presently the SDCCoDA H&I committee is working to get a teen CoDA meeting started at the Boys' Rehabilitation Facility here.

Lynne has been involved in San Diego CoDA H&I service for 16years, and she says hospital/institution CoDA meetings have been ongoing here since before she started.

I have been working with Lynne in H&I for about nine months. We have a team of several CoDA members who are consistently doing H&I service, some of them for many years, and more CoDA members here are becoming interested all the time.

Usually we have at least one male and one female CoDA H&I committee members at each correctional institution meeting. The meetings at both institutions are going strong.

In grateful recovery, Bette Jo

Respectfully submitted by:  
H&I Chair

## Co-NNections Committee

Co-NNections members shared their concerns with the board regarding the confusion between the need for a written and signed copyright form, and the statements found on the Co-NNections web page. The web page stated that submitting a document for publication to the Co-NNections Committee was sufficient to protect CoDA's copyright requirements, and specified the rights of the submitter.

The board concluded that the statement presently located on the Co-NNections web page, <http://coda.org/co-nnections.php>, is enough (legally) to accept and publish submissions that have come and will come to Co-NNections now and in the future. This includes publishing on the web, and publishing as part of a printed newsletter.

The board's decision means that Co-NNections will be able to publish submissions that were sent without a copyright form. These include current submissions and those received over the past few years. Co-NNections members are presently looking into the price of printing these submissions.

In addition, Co-NNections members and the board are exploring the possibility of:

- changing the name "Co-NNections" because of "SPAM" related problems.
- turning the Co-NNections into a quarterly CoDA newsletter.

Finally, we would like to invite others to join the Co-NNections Committee.

Participation on the committee provides an excellent way of working the 12th Step by carrying the message to other codependents. Please contact connections "at" [coda.org](http://coda.org) if you are interested.

Gary R.  
Chairperson

## CDRS

CoDA in Canada is still active, some areas with growth and others not. We are willing and able to help in any way to assist CoDA in moving forward with literature expansion.

## WORLD LITERATURE PROCESS TASK FORCE

## CoRe REPORT

We at CoRe have had a busy few months! The latest piece released is the “Peeling the Onion” booklet, available now. Our next piece is the Newcomers booklet in Spanish. We have had much difficulty in the processing of these translated files, but are working feverishly to get this first piece to the printer by Conference. We apologize, but the delays are unavoidable in order to bring the best quality product to you.

CoDA has had some difficulties getting our e-mails forwarded properly to us (those sent to [coreorders@coda.org](mailto:coreorders@coda.org)), and the web coordinator is working feverishly to correct the problem. In the meantime, he is personally verifying each one gets to us. Please remember our contract worker, Janice, is only there one or two days a week, usually Thursday and Friday, so be patient with your calls and e-mails.

Conference is right around the corner, and we look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. We will be bringing a few pieces of literature to sell at conference, so plan accordingly. We will have Peeling The Onion, In This Moment Meditation Book, Newcomers handbook in **English and Spanish**, CoDA books, CoDA bookmarks, and Welcome Home Chips (in rolls only) – in limited, first come, first serve, quantities. We are also looking for people interested in joining us in service at CoRe; please let us know if you would like more information.

Available now is the self-calculating order form, posted on the web site. It is a PDF that once you fill in your billing info, the ship to info (or SAME) and how many of each item you want, it will sub-total, calculate tax where appropriate, add shipping, and give you your total. All you do then is print it and fax or mail to CoRe – the PDF is not able to be saved, so make sure you print a copy for yourself!

In recovery,  
CoRe Board – Anita, Bev, Jeff & Mary

## CoDA CONVENTION

## ISSUES AND MEDIATION

## SERVICE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

The SSC met in June to discuss several of the items on our agenda for Conference. Here is a recap of our discussions and our group conscience recommendations for approval at Conference. ;

- A. Numerous wording changes in the FSM and Meeting Starter Packet to reflect CoDA's international organization.
- B. Regarding Missouri's issue number 2 (the apparent ambiguous and conflicting wording in the FSM and Newcomers Handbook about Gay and Lesbian meetings being closed). The wording in the FSM and Newcomers Handbook could be better. SSC is going to recommend to CLC that they consider a change to the wording before the next printing of the Newcomers Handbook. The interpretation of the FSM wording should be that G&L meetings "may" be closed.
- C. Include the Board developed Attribution statement in the FSM to be used by entities outside of CoDA when they publish copyrighted CoDA material.
- D. Event and Flyer Guidelines. SSC is going to recommend the following guidelines for events and flyers.

The following guidelines apply to CoDA events such as Conventions, Conferences, and Workshops, and the flyers which announce them.

- 1. Event speakers must be members of the CoDA Fellowship.
- 2. No identifying titles are used, such as Author, Therapist, Dr., RN, or LCSW
- 3. In flyers or announcements, speakers are named using only their first names and first initials of their last names.
- 4. There shall be no sales or advertising of non-CoDA items.
- 5. There shall be no promotion of the Speakers' materials or services. (Books, CDs, therapy, etc).
- 6. Payment is allowed for transportation, meals, and lodging. No fee is paid for speaking.
- 7. Topics should be about some aspect of codependency.

E. Use of CoDA Seal in Section 17 of the FSM. Presently no permission is given for any entity other than CoDA Inc. to use the seal. The proposed change is: This is the CoDA Seal; it is trademarked and may not be altered. Registered "Voting Entities" may use it, or customize it by adding their name/country to the outside perimeter of the seal.

Terri S., Flo, George R, Judi T,  
Curtis F - Chair

## CoDA TEEN

During the last few weeks a number of the CoDA-Teen Starter Packets have been sent to those making inquiries about CoDA-Teen. One was to a group in San Jose in which the first meeting had already been announced. That group was to be in Spanish. Another was to Tennessee where some doing service are providing support and guidance to a person who wants to start a meeting for teens.

The CoDA-Teen Committee could use support from the World Community in dealing with long standing issues of why there are not more (often any) CoDA-Teen meetings, whether CoDA-Teen is a developmentally or realistically appropriate concept for Teens, and the possibility that there are more ways to "carry the message" than CoDA-Teen meetings.

In service / fellowship,  
Allan B  
CoDA-Teen Committee Member

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Outreach remains a very busy committee answering emails from all over the world. We receive 85 per month on average. In looking over our goals for the year 2006, we have not made much progress in some areas and have grown in others. We have done a pretty good job keeping track of our incoming email numbers/statistics. Each individual sends in their numbers for the week.

We have been able to help more codependents who do not have meetings in their areas by giving them information to start their own meeting or directing them to online/alternative formats for support. I believe the alternative format meeting has gained more support from CoDA, Inc. and has enabled us in many areas to reach the suffering codependent where we could not before. We also encourage members who are new and looking for support in their area to submit their email/phone number to be posted on our contact list so we can connect them with others who may contact us in the future. We have not been able to provide much follow up to those who have written in to start new meetings. It is a great service opportunity for someone who is interested to help Outreach. It is an area where Outreach can help CoDA grow.

Spanish Outreach only has 3 active volunteers who answer email at this time. We have had difficulty in recruiting bilingual volunteers. We seem to either get the anxious new CoDA member who wants to do service work too soon or we get those who speak Spanish very well but their English is difficult. Outreach continues to be the major support for Spanish Outreach. This past year Tracey R. left general outreach but stayed on with Spanish Outreach (even though she

is not bilingual and cannot answer emails) just as a source of support and encouragement for this small "sub" committee of Outreach. Spanish Outreach continues to be a needed service for the suffering Spanish speaking codependents. However, the number of emails are less than they have been in the past. We are not sure if this is due to a difficulty for Spanish speaking members to navigate our new website or if it is due to LESS difficulty and they are not requiring email contact. We hope it's the latter!

We still support the update outreach "sub" committee which basically consists of Allan B. following up on reports of "dark" meetings with phone calls or emails to validate existing meetings and making sure that our database is as up to date as possible. This is important especially for new members going to their first meeting only to find out there is no one there anymore. Please update your meeting information at least once a year!

One goal that we did not meet was to have quarterly teleconference. This is unfortunate because I do believe these conferences contribute to the cohesiveness of our committee. With that said, I do feel we have a great working team and we do communicate very well via email as a group conscience process that is crucial to our success in helping the suffering codependent. Please consider joining our team!

Respectfully submitted, Florence F. (Outreach Chair)

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### CoDA Quarterly Service Report (QSR) 3rd quarter 2007

To CoDA's Trusted Servants,

The purpose of the QSR is "serving our CoDA Fellowship" by providing a bulletin "in which committees can report their activities." (Quoted from CoDA by-laws)

It's a vital link between CoDA Inc. Committees, Delegates and members. The QSR and **coda.org** website provide the most complete and up-to-date sources of information about our Fellowship. Please share this information with your meetings and service entities.

Any interested CoDA member can receive the QSR by email. Just contact **QSR@coda.org** to be added to the distribution list.

If you plan to have something in the 4th quarter of 2007 QSR, please email it to **QSR@coda.org**, by November 2, 2007.

### **Use email! Help cut mailing costs!**

**In order to distribute the QSR in the most cost effective manner, we want to send QSRs by e-mail whenever possible. If you have e-mail, please send your name and address:** [qsr@coda.org](mailto:qsr@coda.org)

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