CoDA Service Conference 2021
Motion/Voting Entity Issue (VEI) Form

Check one: _____**Motion (**Committee/Board)
__✓__**VEI** (See VEI Guidelines on reverse side of this form)

Committee/Board or VE & Delegate Name: __GEORGIA_____
Date: _04/15/2021_____
Assigned Number: _____
Revision #:_____**Revision Date:**_____

Motion or VE Issue Name:_Change "men and women" in preamble, combine 1st and 2nd sentence

Motion/Issue: The group consciences of both the Bridge to Recovery CoDA, GA 197 East Roswell, GA and Snellville CoDA propose removing "men and women" from the preamble and combining the first and second sentences in the preamble.

Current: Co-Dependents Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and loving relationships. We gather together to support and share with each other in a journey of self-discovery -- learning to love the self.

Proposed change: Co-Dependents Anonymous is an inclusive fellowship whose common purpose is to develop healthy and loving relationships. We gather together to support and share with each other in a journey of self-discovery -- learning to love the self.

Intent, background, or other pertinent information: In a world that is becoming increasingly aware of the the diversity that surrounds us, this language is exclusionary to non-binary people who do not identify as either men or women. In keeping with CoDA's mission to be inclusive to all who are seeking to have healthy and loving relationships, we believe it is time to change the language to be more inclusive. We believe this is in keeping with CoDA's values. In the second to last paragraph in the 12th Tradition, it states, "Therefore, each member's path or belief is welcome; CoDA is completely inclusive." In the last paragraph in the 12th Tradition it again mentions inclusivity and states, "The Traditions teach each member and group of Co-Dependents Anonymous how to protect our anonymous, spiritual, and inclusive Fellowship." The proposal of combining the first and second sentences of the preamble is to make the text flow more naturally. The two groups are in agreement that the proposed change eliminates an unnecessary and clunky second sentence.

Remarks: Comments from a member of Bridge to Recovery CoDA:

One of the things that gave me so much comfort as a newcomer was the assurance that CoDA is an inclusive organization. We all come to CoDA from different backgrounds. Knowing that I would be accepted no matter what my background or what beliefs I have, was important to me. That gave me the courage to go to my first meeting.

This motion or VEI requires changes to (please check any that apply)

_____**ByLaws**	_____**FSM P1**	__✓__**FSM P2**
_____**FSM P3**	_____**FSM P4**	_____**FSM P5**

_____**Change of Responsibility**
_____**Other:**_____

(Date Entry Use Only):
Motion result:_____
VEI Result – Assigned to_____**on**_____**(date)**