



HEROIN ANONYMOUS WORLD BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2015

Greetings,

We write you as representatives of Heroin Anonymous World Services (HAWWS). This informational bulletin's purpose is to increase communication between the groups of Heroin Anonymous throughout the world.

AREA SPOTLIGHT

Phoenix, Arizona Area of Heroin Anonymous

Heroin Anonymous was formed in Phoenix, Arizona back in 2004. A few recovered heroin addicts got together and decided to create a fellowship of their own. In Phoenix there are currently 26 regular weekly meetings and approximately 16 H&I meetings. The HA World Services Board also resides in Phoenix, assisting in furthering the reach of the message of Heroin Anonymous to many of the 50 United States and several other countries.

In Phoenix, our Intergroup helps to organize functions and keep the local groups in communication. Many functions have been successfully executed by HA in Phoenix. Examples include

the first World Convention, Unity Day Pool Parties, HA-lloween, and the annual retreat. Currently, a group is organizing the first AZ state convention in 2016. We also have an established 24-hour hotline to make information available to heroin addicts who seek the fellowship. All of these events are great examples of how we organize as a fellowship to bring a message of hope to the sick and suffering heroin addict.

We are not without growing pains! We are a young fellowship that is inexperienced who often learn as we go. Sure, we do our best to take experience from other fellowships but it is

important to have our own experience, as well (not unlike the 12 steps). Sometimes it may be frustrating and difficult but in the end it's all worth it to see our family continue to grow and watch people truly recover from hopelessness. We certainly don't know everything, but if our experience can possibly benefit your group or area, please let us know by contacting the bulletin committee and they will be happy to point you in our direction. We will do our best to share what worked for us.

- An HA Member in
Phoenix, AZ

Contact HAWWS Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our HA bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.

We can also be contacted through our web site at: www.heroinanonymous.org.

H.A. INFOLINE

Tradition Five implies that it is our responsibility as recovered men and women to ensure that the hand of Heroin Anonymous is always available when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help. An Infoline is a useful tool to reach the suffering heroin addict in local areas. The service is a twenty-four hour direct telephone line setup to connect local groups and the HA member. Individuals are committed to answering calls from addicts who are generally looking for HA meetings or information on HA services. A member in Portland has created an easy to follow tutorial which is available for groups who are interested in creating an infoline in their area. Through following the tutorial, the answering services are of no financial cost to the group, require little knowledge of technological skills and take under ten minutes to set up. Several HA area groups in cities such as Portland and Phoenix, and the state of Ohio have already developed and established their own Infoline. Each city has a different way of managing their phone

service to meet the needs of the recovery community, but we can offer some suggestions and guidelines from our experience to those interested in this commitment.

HAWS feels it is imperative that individuals/groups keep safety at heart when volunteering for service work. Many groups favor sobriety requirements to serve on the Infoline Committee to keep members safe when reaching out to newly sober callers. Generally, the Infoline is managed by the local intergroup or subcommittee which oversees the structure and guidelines of the commitment. HAWS suggests groups commit to a clear and defined purpose of their Infoline before beginning this journey. The group can designate shifts to answer incoming calls, or simply have one member man the phone depending on the need.

Once the Infoline is established, the phone number can then be made available through mediums

HAWS BULLETIN NAME CHANGE

The Heroin Anonymous World Services Monthly Bulletin, while being a very useful vehicle to share information with our fellowship around the world, is also a mouthful. With that in mind, we would love to give a name to the bulletin, and we want your suggestions! If you can think of a great name for our bulletin (think AA's "Grapevine"), please [follow this link](#) and answer a few questions. The bulletin committee will pick a handful of finalists for final voting next month. Thank you all in advance!

like the HA website, local HA literature and given to newcomers we meet confined to hospitals and institutions. If you would like to receive the tutorial to create a free Infoline your area, contact The Bulletin and we will email you the document detailing how to get started.

- HAWS

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THE 8TH TRADITION OF H.A.

Heroin Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

The 8th Tradition of Heroin Anonymous is highly debated and has been applied in many 12-step fellowships. In essence, it warns against accepting pay for 12-step work. As prescribed by the tradition, we ought to remain non-professional. To remain non-professional though, we might hope for a clear definition of professionalism. To that end, Bill W's 1948 Grapevine entry states that, "We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire." At first, this may seem discouraging to those who work in the many recovery fields in which our experience makes us uniquely qualified. In the book "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions", however, specific examples are given, one of which addresses this dilemma. It is explained that there is a difference between performing 12-step work, and making 12-step work possible by working. In the experience given, they exclaim that no problems have come from those who work in recovery because their work only makes recovery possible. They do warn, however, that problems have arisen when members have broken their anonymity as a result of their success in the recovery field in which they work, a violation of the 12th Tradition. Although some circumstances may pale the line between what is, and is not, professionalism, we have faith that our higher power will guide us.

- An HA Member in Phoenix, AZ

If you would like your meeting featured in our meeting spotlight, or have any other content you would like to submit, please feel free to contact us at the email listed. Thank you!

Heroin Anonymous World Services Board

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