



THE MAINLINE

MARCH 2019

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

SPEAKER RECORDINGS FROM HAWC18 ARE UP

World Services Update

Dear readers...get ready to become "listeners".

The highly awaited speaker tapes from the 2018 Heroin Anonymous Convention have been added to the Heroin Anonymous World Services website! The second HA World Convention (HAWC) was held August 31st through September 2nd in (then) not rainy and perfectly gorgeous Portland, OR.

The convention featured 4 speakers over 3 days: Tabitha A., Tiffany, Chris S., and Eric O.

Thank you for your patience while we, the webmaster committee, worked through our backlog of responsibilities in order to get this media up and to you, our fellowship. If you would like to see things added to the website faster, please consider joining the Webmaster Committee yourself!

We are always looking for WordPress savvy members to help share the ever-increasing load of digital needs of Heroin Anonymous World Services.

If you, or someone you know, is either well versed in WordPress, or reasonably tech savvy with the heart of a student, please contact us at hawswebmaster@gmail.com.

In service,

Meagan F.
Your Webmaster

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OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO

Personal Story: Brian B. – Saratoga Springs, NY

In 2018, I celebrated my 6th year of continued sobriety directly due to Heroin Anonymous and a higher power of my own understanding. I will not be humble...year six was amazing. I got it all! A big wedding at a place I had no business affording. A wife I have no business being with. A career that pays me too much money. The car, house, dogs, big TV, you know, all the stuff that should be unattainable for a guy like me.

My outside world finally caught up with the internal freedom HA had given me.

In August of 2018, I got an opportunity to give back to the fellowship that has given me this life that is far beyond my wildest dreams, in a whole new way. I was able to be present in Portland, Oregon at the first ever World Conference of Heroin Anonymous and serve New York as one of its delegates. If you don't know what a World Conference is, it's the business meeting for HA World Service.

This was a brand-new spiritual experience. I got to meet members of HA from all over the country, to exchange ideas and try to facilitate the growth of our beautiful fellowship. The 2nd World Conference is July 10th, 2019 in Phoenix, Arizona, and is open to all HA members.

I came home from Portland with such a spiritual buzz. There were 4 months left of this amazing year, and I couldn't wait for the next blessing to come into my life.

It turns out it came, but it didn't show up draped in rainbows -- but rather jagged spikes. I went to the emergency department and found out I had kidney stones. I made it through that life event alive and sober, but it had an effect. I was full of self-pity and couldn't figure out why my life wasn't still on the upswing it had been on.

It was shown to me, through HA and my higher power, that I wasn't picking up all the tools HA has suggested I use. I was thinking about myself a lot, and I really wasn't being sponsored by anyone. I had one whom if asked, I could say was my sponsor, but I was not working steps with him any longer, nor was I calling him when I met indecision.

If I am honest, I probably thought all those amazing things that had come into my life had more to do with me than they did with HA and my higher power.

I was back in control.

Luckily, before I picked up dope, I picked up the phone and called a man I have always respected in this program. I told him what was going on, and he agreed to sponsor me. We met that night and got back in to work. I started writing a 4th step, and quickly did a 5th step.

One of the amends that was uncovered one was to my father, but I couldn't see how I was to make that, since I hadn't seen him in 20 years.

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A few days later, HA did for me what I couldn't do for myself, as it tends to do.

I was listening to a speaker tape of an HA member I met at the world conference, and he talked about how before his estranged father passed away, he was able to seek him out, and make amends to him.

His story with his dad was just like mine. His father was absent from his whole life, and that absence gave him an excuse his entire life. He said when he found him, he walked away from the encounter with a new freedom. I wanted that, but I wasn't sure how to make it happen. However, I knew I couldn't postpone it.

Before I sought out my father, I connected with a new friend I had made at the conference. He was an HA member in Atlanta, Georgia; the same state my father was in. He told me about the meetings there, and I knew with HA being there I would have the courage and faith to make the amends I never wanted to make.

I called my father and asked if he would be cool if I came to visit. He obliged, so I booked a plane ticket. I landed in GA on Thursday and visited with my father until Friday.

I admitted all the wrongs I had done to him and asked if I could make them right. More importantly, for the first time in my life I saw my dad as a human being, and not the evil man I had made him out to be. I left my father's house and drove immediately to an HA meeting in Atlanta, and they kindly let me tell my story.

I left Atlanta a couple days later with some new friends, new memories and some old memories renewed. More importantly, I left Atlanta without the fear and resentment I had carried for 30+ years, and it was replaced with a freedom I didn't know was possible. None of it was possible without Heroin Anonymous.

My experience has been as follows: if I continue to show up, and use the tools HA suggests, the impossible continues to become my reality.

Brian B.
No Choice Group
Saratoga Springs, NY

WORLD SERVICE MANUAL DRAFTED & APPROVED

World Conference Update – Structures & Bylaws Committee

Greetings members,

We, the Heroin Anonymous World Conference Structures and Bylaws Committee, are excited to announce that the first H.A. World Service Manual was approved at the 2018 World Conference in Portland, Oregon.

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The H.A. Service Manual outlines the service principles and structure, and ultimately enables us to carry the message to the still-suffering heroin addict. This manual contains a wealth of information intended to inform and assist our service bodies from the group level up to World Services and the Conference.

The Structures and Bylaws Committee is responsible for maintaining the World Service Manual while working to update and improve it to better serve our fellowship. The Structures and Bylaws Committee is here to serve the groups and individual members of Heroin Anonymous.

If you have any input or suggestions, we'd love to hear them.

If you have an idea on something that can be improved, please reach out to us! We are here to serve you and your participation is *essential* in helping us to improve the Service Manual.

You can find the conference-approved H.A. World Service Manual at <http://heroinanonymous.org/conference>.

Please contact us at: HAWSStructureandBylaws@gmail.com

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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