



H.A.W.S. **MAINLINE**

Heroin Anonymous World Services
Monthly Bulletin

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This informational bulletin's purpose is to
increase communication between the groups of
Heroin Anonymous throughout the world.



DECEMBER **2019** ISSUE



Photo by Kris Atomic

POSITION OPENINGS: **WEBMASTER COMMITTEE**

A message from the WSOB Webmaster Committee Chair

The HAWS web site has been a vital part of communicating information about HA to those who want and need it. With so much growth in the fellowship, we have recently recognized the need to up-scale our Webmaster committee.

We are seeking 2-3 more webmaster committee participants.

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

Please note that required technical experience is minimal! If you can answer emails, and have reasonable organizational skills, you probably qualify for one or more of the open positions on the webmaster committee.

There is a 6-month sobriety requirement on these commitments. If you are interested, please contact us at hawswebmaster@gmail.com so we can provide more details.

Thanks,
Chris G.

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CHILLIN' LIKE MILK IN THE FRIDGE

HA World Convention Update (August 28-30, 2020 in Atlanta, GA)

The Heroin Anonymous World Convention will be here in August of 2020!

We of Atlanta are both honored and excited to be hosting this celebration of the fellowship that has saved our lives! Be sure to come out and join us in our theme of cleaning up the dirty south! If you're cool like a fool in a swimming pool, or you lose yourself to dance, or you just like chillin' like milk in the fridge, we have some awesome events planned to show you a good time at this convention!

Pre-Registration is up and running! You can save yourself 10 bucks by registering now! The registration link is as follows:

<https://heroinanonymous.regfox.com/heroin-anonymouol-world-service-convention>

Now that it's cooler than a polar bear's toenails outside, we have hoodies available in fundraising for this event! The hoodies are \$35 each, another \$10 if you require shipping. You may contact our

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merchandising rep Convention@GeorgiaHa.org for more information or ordering.

We look forward to seeing all who will be there, and thank you for your support!

In service,
Mark H.

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HOW I FOUND A HOME IN H.A.

Personal Story: Tyler Z. – Stuart, FL

My name is Tyler Z., and I am a member of Heroin Anonymous. My sobriety date is August 11th 2017.

In April of 2017 my brother overdosed and died when I had 30 days sober. I relapsed quite quickly after that. I was putting my parents through the same thing I promised myself I would never do again. When I was standing over his casket, you could have hooked me up to a lie detector test and asked me if I would ever pick up again. My answer would have been no, and I would have passed that test.

Shortly after my relapse, I was lying on the hospital floor with my parents next to me while I was slowly dying. I looked up and had the first moment of clarity that I was a true heroin addict who desperately needed help and that I was spiritually bankrupt.

I got sober when I was 23 years old. I went to treatment where I came across an HA meeting with people who made me feel at home and who understood me. I had been hiding out in other fellowships where I couldn't talk about the Hep-C and my needle obsession, and I felt I was never really understood.

I never understood what exactly was wrong with me. I went through countless treatment centers and detoxes, and it seemed that no one ever told me I was suffering from a three-fold disease until my HA sponsor educated me.

I wouldn't trade my life today for anything, and it was only possible through this fellowship, God, and my brothers around me.

- Tyler Z.

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INDESCRIBABLY SWEET, YET BITTER

Personal Story: Justin I. – West Haven, CT

My name is Justin I. and I am a heroin addict. A Power greater than myself removed me from all substances on July 8th 2019. My home group, "A Way Out," meets at the 12 Step Club Friday at 8pm on 337 Main St., West Haven, CT. I have a sponsor who has taken me through the steps laid out in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. I will disclose in a general way what it was like, what happened, and what it's like today:

My father left when I was three years old and my mother drank and did cocaine. I've seen my mother intoxicated to a state of oblivion. But those traumas in my life are not what make me a heroin addict. What makes me a heroin addict is that I have an allergy. When I ingest heroin I have a compulsion that will not allow me to stop using until I have exhausted all resources of getting more. When I try to stop, I have a mental obsession that tells me it's okay to continue using despite all consequences.

Between the ages of twelve and twenty-two I was introduced to all kinds of substances, but at the age of twenty-three I had found the elixir to life: heroin. As a direct result of my love affair with heroin, I've been arrested numerous times, been to treatment centers, incarcerated, homeless, overdosed, and missed the birth of my daughter.

I was introduced to a 12-step fellowship in 2009 via my probation

officer. I had absolutely no idea what I was up against. I acquired nothing more than nine months of sobriety after coming in and out for years. After several suicide attempts by intentional overdose, and after I abandoned my daughter I was finally sick and tired. On March 1, 2019 I woke up beside my friend's dead body due to her having a heroin overdose. I called it in and went to jail for an outstanding warrant. I served 4 months in jail and was released on July 1st.

On July 8th I decided to find help one last time and put forth the effort to get myself back together. I dove into service work and worked all 12 steps. At the Connecticut Annual State Conference of AA I heard about HA and was directed to people who instructed me on how to get HA started in Connecticut. Over the past two months I've gathered with people to get this process rolling. The 12 step club in West Haven, CT hosted the first HA meeting in the state on December 6th 2019 at 8pm.

Since my last date of use I have restored my relationship with my daughter, I go to college full time, I regained my position within a company that fired me for heroin use. I have a support network, and I am overwhelmed with gratitude to be alive today. That says a lot for a guy who has made several attempts on his life.

- Justin I.

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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 haworldbulletin@gmail.com.

Thank you!

The Folks at The HAWS Mainline



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