



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.



JULY **2023** ISSUE



Photo by: [Veronika Andrews](#)

Happy Summer and Happy Conference Season from the H.A. World Services Board!

Here is some information to help you stay up to date with all things Heroin Anonymous. For those of you Mainline subscribers that are new, the HAWS board is compiled primarily of H.A. members who meet monthly to tend to H.A. business throughout the year.

2023 HAWS Conference: The official 2023 Heroin Anonymous World Service Conference was held earlier this month in Phoenix, AZ and was a beautiful collection of H.A. members representing 23

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areas in 20 states. World Service Conferences are a time for H.A. members with different experiences and perspectives to come together to make changes to H.A. at the world level with the goal of improving H.A. as a fellowship.

Some highlights of the conference include: book survey results explored, new 'Fellowship + The Program' pamphlet approved, new 'Self-Supporting: Money, Responsibility, and Spirituality' pamphlet approved, Public Information presentation for facilities approved, multiple PSA's approved, and after years of discussion, a new 'Singleness of Purpose' [reading](#) was approved that says: "**Heroin Anonymous wishes to include all people who suffer from opiate and opioid addictions into the classification of "heroin addict," as we believe there is little difference in getting free from these substances.**"

The official minutes will be posted on the website by early September of this year.

2024 HAWS Conference and Convention: Want to get in on the action at the next conference or attend the huge H.A. World Party (Convention) in July of 2024? Head to heroinanonymous.org/convention/ for more info and begin to book travel to Buffalo, NY.

Bookmarks/Merchandise/Art Request: H.A. World Services has produced its first ever H.A. World merchandise... bookmarks! These limited edition designs are available now at \$3 per bookmark. Head to www.HeroinAnonymous.org/Order to snag some! We have a request for artists or artsy heroin addicts: please send any merchandise ideas or designs to Merchandise@HeroinAnonymous.org.

Virtual Meetings: *Do you want to attend an H.A. meeting 1,000 miles away from your very own couch? Do you find it interesting to hear heroin addicts from another region share their experience, strength, and hope?* We have close to 30 active Zoom meetings in 10 different states. Go to our world website, click meetings, and click the link to find online meetings. Make sure

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to convert the time zone! Email HawsWebmaster@HeroinAnonymous.org if you notice any inaccuracies or want to add a meeting.

HAWS Positions: Looking for more involvement with H.A.? Then service with the HAWS board may be right for YOU! Our nominations committee is continuing to screen applications, interview, and recommend candidates to join the board. If you are interested in the following positions, please send service resumes, references, and inquiries to: HawsSecretary@HeroinAnonymous.org.

- **Non-Addict Advisor:** This is someone who is not a member of H.A. They may be an expert in recovery fellowships, non-profits, or possess various business skills that they wish to volunteer for the good of H.A.
- **Heroin Addict Advisor:** This is someone who is a member of H.A. This person will utilize their experience with H.A. and 12 Step service to advise the board.
- **Public Information Chair:** This position is for a member of H.A. who will work with public information at the world level. The efforts of Public Information can be best summarized as taking actions to increase the general population's awareness and accessibility of Heroin Anonymous.

In loving service,

Anna A., HAWS Outreach Chair

HawsOutreach@HeroinAnonymous.org

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SINGLENES OF PURPOSE

From the Mainline Editors

The 2023 Heroin Anonymous World Service Conference was held this month in Phoenix, AZ. At the conference, a new Singleness of Purpose reading was approved on the floor. You can find the new conference-approved reading on the HAWS website. The editors of The Mainline wanted to share this update with our readers.

"H.A. is a group of heroin addicts helping other heroin addicts achieve sobriety through the twelve steps. In keeping the focus on heroin addiction in our meetings, we are providing a place where addicts can come together and share about their common

problem, addiction to heroin, as well as the common solution. In maintaining our singleness of purpose, we recognize our limitations, but we ensure that the heroin addict will always have a place they can go to find recovery. Heroin Anonymous wishes to include all people who suffer from opiate and opioid addictions into the classification of 'heroin addict,' as we believe there is little difference in getting free from these substances."

-Mainline

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WHERE I BELONG

Personal Story: Alexandra S. Philadelphia, PA (The Mainline Group).

As I celebrate 1,000 continuous days of sobriety, I am overwhelmed with feelings of joy, serenity, and gratitude. If you told me this is where my life would be almost three years ago, I wouldn't have believed you.

One of the constants in my recovery this time around has been my amazing home group – the Mainline Group of H.A. in Philadelphia, PA. I am a proud member and Chair of that home group, which meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. It is the only H.A. meeting in the city of Philadelphia and has become a staple in my personal recovery journey.

The meeting first opened right before COVID, in February of 2020. I wound up getting sober in October of that year and came to the Tuesday night meeting my first day out of treatment. It was where I finally felt like I belonged and was accepted for being me – a heroin addict. It was where I found my first sponsor, who took me through the steps. It was where I felt free to talk about the disease I suffered from and never felt judged. It was where my significant other also got sober and relapsed, several times,

but again, where no one judged him and accepted him back with open arms. It is the place where I have made real friends – the ones who I can truly count on and never expect anything from in return. It is truly like a second home and where I have taken several commitments throughout my years of sobriety. It's the place I look forward to going every week and am always there early to help set-up. It is the place I take newcomers and introduce them to this incredible fellowship.

So get yourself a home group like the Mainline Group, where you too can feel "at home." You belong here and WE are always here for you! I am truly and forever grateful to my homegroup, the fellowship of H.A., my sponsor, the many friends I have who surround and support me, and my family, who continue to show me unconditional love and never, ever give up on me. Here's to the next 1,000 days!

-Alexandra S.

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STANDING ON OUR OWN TWO FEET

Tradition Twist: Kennedy E.

"7. Every H.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

This is a very important tradition in H.A. Without this tradition, who knows where H.A. and many H.A. home groups would be. Tradition 7 helps to keep home groups independent and to remain inline with their primary purpose. If other corporations or businesses funded H.A., it is possible that alternate agendas would be put into place that did not focus on helping the still sick and suffering heroin addict.

From my experience, I have seen home groups find meeting places that were rent free. Some rehab facilities allowed H.A. groups to hold their meeting at their facility free of charge. But in following the 7th Tradition, it is important to be fully self-supporting even if the meeting place isn't requiring rent.

What was done instead of paying rent at the facility? Generous donations of useful supplies.

One of my old home groups would donate paper towels, plastic utensils and toilet paper to the facility, since no rent was required. This was to help keep us accountable with the 7th Tradition and to show we truly are self supporting. This also helps to reinforce the fact that we are separate from any facility we hold our meetings in, so that a meeting can not be influenced by outside ideals, other than that of H.A.

This tradition also goes deeper than just at a home group level. It also applies at the level of areas and world services. H.A. structures should never reach out to outside sources to fund events or alleviate costs. To follow in this tradition, budgeting is very important and events and

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services should never exceed the cost of what H.A. has available.

In the long term, this will enhance the growth of the fellowship, which is one of the major reasons why, not only Tradition 7, but all the traditions were created. For so long we took and stole from others while we were in active

addiction, but now we try to stand on our own two feet to make responsible decisions and support ourselves and our fellowship as best as we can.

-Kennedy E.

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H.A. World Convention 2024

A Score of HA

Buffalo, NY

UPSTATE NY AREA OF HEROIN ANONYMOUS IS HONORED TO BE SELECTED TO HOST THE HAWS CONVENTION! IT WILL NOT ONLY BE HA'S BI-ANNUAL WORLD CONVENTION, BUT ALSO 20 YEARS (A SCORE) OF HA (2004-2024)!

DATE AND LOCATION TBD.

Stay Tuned!

2024 H.A.W.S. Convention: ANNOUNCEMENT

The Program committee of the convention is looking for speaker tapes from the fellowship to find people to speak at the H.A. World Convention in 2024. If you, or someone you know, has a speaker tape, and want to submit it please email the following to

ConventionSpeakers@HeroinAnonymous.org:

- Audio file
- Name
- Area
- Contact method

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Upstate New York Area of Heroin Anonymous Presents

A SCORE OF HA

H.A.W.S. Convention
Buffalo, NY
2024

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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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