

JOINT ZONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2020 (Sunday)  
DALLAS, TX

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## **1. Opened Meeting with Serenity Prayer**

## **2. 12 Traditions Read**

## **3. 12 Concepts Read**

## **4. Introductions**

## **5. Regional Reports:**

Purpose is to get to know each other.

Request to limit reports to 3 minutes and share innovative projects, problems. Reports are given now; in depth discussions in separate zonal meetings.

### **Alabama/Northwest Florida**

Hello Everyone from Alabama Northwest Florida Delegate Team;

First I would like to thank God for allowing me to be here clean and in recovery, and it's always good to participate in my recovery. Not much to report on today except that there is a lot of activity to come before we head to the WSC in April. Our RSC was cancelled due to inclement weather, so my report is pretty much the same as last time.

Important Dates:

- February 14-16, 2020 – Out of The Darkness Convention – Decatur, Al
- February 29, 2020 – ALNWFL Regional Assembly – Montgomery, Al
- March, 20 -22, 2020 – Mobile Area Convention, Mobile Alabama
- April, 16 -20, 2020 – Panama City Beach, Florida

The Regional Assembly will be held in Montgomery, Alabama February 29th, 2019, contingent on us being able to secure the facility that we normally use. Since 2020 is a cycle year, the RA will focus on the CAR and CAT. This is a forum where RCM's, GSR's and any interested members of Narcotics Anonymous can attend and participate. The Montgomery Area had it's convention, Free At Last, last week and there was great participation from members in the region.

We are still experiencing some issues with several areas of the H&I committee. It's not that the services are not being carried out, but we are experiencing not have an actual H&I chair, however, the committees do have Panel leaders for the facilities we service. The PI/PR position at Region is still vacant. We will be accepting nominations for all open positions which include the filling of a new AD since Kelly will automatically move into the RD position in June, 2020. My time is winding down. Looking forward to all the CAR/CAT activity leading into the conference. That is all for now. Harold H. RD ALNWFL

## Arkansas

Hello all! Arkansas is alive and well. We have 6 active Areas and 1 loner group that attend the RSC meetings. There is another loner group that attended an RSC in August 2019. However, they struggle with long term recovery and members involved in service willing to attend the RSC.

Our Region continues to struggle with lack of participation and apathy in service. We are in the process of moving towards project based service to eliminate vacant positions that have been vacant for as long as 2-3 years. Some Areas are opposed to this change. There is also some opposition to the BMLT in our Region as well.

Our Region has voted to change our Annual Region Convention to every other year. Historically, our Region loses money nearly every year. Moving to every other year was the decidedly prudent action.

At the last RSC, there was much discussion on men/women/specialty meetings and whether they violate Traditions.

There is also discussion on growing the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in Arkansas. Our fellowship in Arkansas is shrinking, groups folding, areas folding, and service bodies not being able to meet their service needs. Fellowship development is a topic of discussion. There are some barriers -

1. Older members tiring of drug court people and their lack of involvement, lack of respect of NA language, not getting sponsors or working steps.
2. Close-mindedness towards those on MAT/DRT attending our meetings.
3. Lack of members to do PR and H&I service. (Apathy)

We had 1 Area motion the RSC for "seed money" to start their own convention and will pay it back when they hold their first convention. A motion was made to freeze all spending aside from budgeted items, until this motion is voted on. If this motion fails, we have no experience on how to proceed with this Area. Any experience, strength, and hope would be appreciated.

The strengths of our Region is our PR and Outreach. Our Region does a great job of finding health fairs to set up an information booth. Our RSC Chair is very active in reaching out to loner groups and low attended groups, supporting those meetings.

We do not have a donation at this time. Our treasurer was unable to attend the last RSC due to a death in the family.

There is an upcoming convention in Fort Smith, AR - Hangin' in the Fort #27. Mar 06, 2019 at 4 PM – Mar 08, 2019. Host Hotel - Courtyard by Marriot. Rooms are \$90 a night - 479-783-2100. Preregistration can be found on [arscna.org](http://arscna.org)  
In Loving Service Dyanne S., RD

## **Bluegrass Appalachian**

Southern Coalfields Unlimited Recovery Area serving rural western West Virginia has recently joined BARNA, taking the total number of areas served to 7. Since joining we have been able to help provide services to them including support for Public Relations and the installation of a new phoneline.

We have been able to allow to several areas in our region that have never had phonelines before to have a phoneline answered by their local servants including: PIRANA, Unity Area, and SCURA. In the spirit of unity as precipitated by KBARNA, our region directed us to also make this technology available to any member areas of Kenuckiana that would like to use it. We have been able to provide phonelines to three member areas of Kentuckiana including: Pennyryle area, Owensboro Area, and Narcotics Anonymous of Central Kentucky.

Our RD/AD team has been coordinating with the Kentuckiana team. They are planning a joint CAR workshop prior to the next KBARNA meeting on Sunday February 23, 2020 in Lexington, KY and will be available via zoom at zoom ID: 201-257-2764. We are continuing better communications between the two regions.

We no longer have independent H+I and PR, we have combined those for more of a Fellowship Development committee. This allows us to offer services more effectively.

We are in the process of reviewing and revising our Policies and Procedures. A P&P AdHoc was formed and work is currently taking place among members of various areas in the region. They are meeting regularly via zoom.

Our regional meeting is now taking place monthly. We meet twice in a row only on zoom and quarterly in person with a zoom component. This serves to allow us to provide more services and aid in faster decision making processes.

The BARCNA convention will now be held on a yearly basis. This years convention is to be hosted by the Unity Area.

During a regional e-mail chain, a member asked several questions regarding zonal representation were asked as it relates to two or more unseated regions in a zone and the member was grateful for answers received from Staci and Henry. After much discussion among experienced members, it was suggested to ask the following questions of the zone:

1. Would the unseated regions of the Southern Zone or all of the individual member regions be asked to vote on whether or not to send a Zonal Delegate to the WSC?
2. How would the group conscience be collected? Online submissions, conference call, joint online CAR workshop?
3. What would the actual group conscience material consist of?

4. Would that group conscience reflect the voting by all of the member regions in the SZF or just the unseated constituents?

Joanie H.

### **Carolina**

Good Morning Family,

First, thank you all for the awesome participation at Decembers 2019, CAR SEZF weekend. We are so excited to be present during the first dual Zonal-WB CAR CAT Conference of 2020. The CRNA RD AD team is looking forward to bringing the information back to our CRSC, April 1st, 2020. CRNA last met in January with 16 of 21 Areas present. We had an awesome CRSC . The information referring to SEZF minutes was handed out at that time, we have not received any new questions pertaining to the results of the Ad-Hoc/Project plan workgroup's. Thank you to the SEZF for their response. CRNA RD AD team are preparing the CAR/CAT workshops with all the Areas for Multi Area workshops at this time. We voted unanimously to adapt the Additional Needs guidelines to CRNA. The CRNA proposal past to have Additional Needs as its own Task force, at the CRSC. Also, the SEZF Guidelines with the financial information added will be voted on a sent out for approval in April. Our CRSC sub-committees are well attended; the sub-committees are looking into being hosted via ZOOM along with face to face quarterly meetings, as well as possibly monthly Zoom meetings. Since the new SEZF guideline did not pass the resumes are due at this SEZF in Texas correct?

- CRNA would like a PDF reader friendly file of SEZF minutes including the financials for our Region, please, for Blind /visual impaired members, on SEZF.org website and/or emailed to the RD AD team.

Wishing all a very Happy WSC-2020 conference cycle and looking forward to seeing you all in April in Woodland hills California.

ILS The Carolina Region RD AD Team

Michele Johnsen, CRNA RD and Randy Thierman, CRNA AD

### **Florida**

The Florida Region cover 23 areas in Florida from Tallahassee east to Jacksonville south to West Palm Beach and westward across the state to Sarasota and all parts northward, we also have areas in Bermuda and Trinidad and Tobago. There are 21 active areas. We continue to support services in the Florida Region using a Fellowship Development model. We no longer have subcommittees, but we have Resource Coordinators for PR, H&I, Technology and Corrections. IT and PR have alternate resource coordinators as well. We are a working region with project plans suggested by the membership through Area Support and Fellowship Development sessions. FD and HRP work together to staff the workgroups. HRP asks for members of our region to complete volunteer forms and interview potential trusted servants for positions and standing workgroups. We are still awaiting the outcome of the criminal trial for our previous special worker who allegedly embezzled monies from our Regional Service Office. We have facilitated 3 CAR workshops around one at the RSC and 2 at multi area CAR functions. 2 of these workshops

were also accessible by Zoom. We have 2 other workshops planned one in Greater Orlando/Hartland areas on Feb. 15, 2020 and one on Feb. 22, 2020 which is multi area and will take place in St. Pete. These may be accessed by Zoom as well but more will be revealed. We are in the process of planning our biennial GSR Gathering. The topics chosen by the RCMs of the Florida Region for the gathering are: 1) Effective GSR Starter Kit 2) Meeting Etiquette 3) Recovery Orientated Service or Service Oriented Recovery 4) Fulfilling Commitments 5) Finding Your Niche in Service . The Florida Region has finally decided and voted to join the Zonal BMLT. We are also preparing for FRCNA 39 Living the Dream which will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek from July 2 through the 5th. For more information go to FRCNA.com In grateful service, Kristi-Beth and Joel.

Question to the body: How many voting on CAR/CAT online? About a quarter of folks

### **Georgia**

We have 18 active Areas in the Georgia region.All is well  
PR Participated at Gay Pride and for the first time they helped with Black Gay Pride,The West End Helped with this .  
GEORGIA NA HISTORY BOOK: The Georgia History book is going fine, They are compiling Material. Still no date projected for projects Completion .  
Georgia Regional Convention GRC 39 Feb 20-23 2020. Me and Joe B will be doing a Cat and Car workshop at the Convention we Have a 3 hour time Block.  
Nominations will be accepted for all Regional positions accept RD , I have another Year .  
H&I is going good ,we had Representatives from the Georgia Department of Corrections ,do a Certification work shop to get people certified so they can do H&I meetings in State Prison  
Thanks to the east Coast convention we have Placed 485 6<sup>th</sup> Edition Basic Text in Georgia Prisons  
In loving Service Bob D

Question to the body: How many state/county prisons going to tablet? 2

### **Kentuckiana**

Hello family;  
I want to introduce our new AD in which many of you may already know, Mikey P.

Mikey and I are working together to schedule CAR workshops and our hope is to give every member in our region the opportunity to have a vote.

Kentuckiana is going strong. Groups voted to increase world donations in order to decrease the amount of money in the bank account.

The KRCNA 34 planning is going well and will occur April 10th -12th. I sent Lucy a flyer in the last zonal meeting. Mikey P. was voted in as KRCNA 35 convention chair.

The next KBARNA meeting will be held on February 23rd in Lexington, Ky. I noticed that WSC did not recognize Joanie as RD for KBARNA. I have questions as to whether WSC will pay for Joanie to travel to WSC and act as RD for KBARNA.

KRSCNA sent a SZF donation of \$200.

Our region has an open service opportunity, secretary. Our regions meets every other month.

Kentuckiana has agreed to change SZF to the third weekend in July, 2020 in conjunction with 502 regional convention. (flyer attached... mention 502NA for the room block rate)

We have an area that have several open positions.

Communication between Bluegrass Appalachian has created several opportunities to serve.

I'm looking forward to WSC.

In loving service

Joy

#### **Lone Star**

Hello Family

The Lone Star Region is doing well. Our RD resigned his position and the region has appointed Sharon S the RD till May. She will be mentoring and training me and attending the conference. At the last region I presented a Concepts workshop which we went over Concepts 1 & 2 and will continue with 2 concepts per region. We will be having a CAR/CAT workshop on February 22, 2020 at the New Beginnings Group in Tyler, Texas will be starting at 9am till 5pm. We donated \$500.00 to the SZF.

I want to thank everyone for participating in the zoom calls and attended the PR Presentation. I appreciate all the hard work everyone put in.

In Loving Service

Jennette F

RDA Lone Star Region

Comment: On behalf of SEZ we want to thank Lone Star and SZF for this event.

#### **Louisiana**

Good morning Zonal Members,

The Louisiana Region is doing well and all positions are filled with the exception of Vice Chair and Outreach. To fill the efforts of Outreach several members will band together and do "Road Trips" to outlying meetings that need support. Our Region has a 24 Hour Helpline (585) DONT-USE (585) 366-8873 (I neglected to read this in my report, sorry).

We have two (2) donations from the Northshore ASC (\$432.95) and our Region (\$605.72) and all checks were turned over to the treasurer. (Receipts in folder).

NOACNA is restarting in July 2021 and more information will be available soon... The NOLA PR Committee has a six month "Bus Sign Campaign" Yeah!

We have three (3) Conference Agenda Workshops planned for the first three (3) weekends in February. And two (2) tentative without firm dates thus far.

This weekend was well done, and thanks to our host Lone Star Region and Service Workers...

"We have King Cake in the back yeah" lol

Grateful to serve,  
Lee P.  
Louisiana RD/AD

### **Mississippi**

Hello,

The Mississippi Region is doing well. We have a new RD team and should be more attentive to future SZF meetings. We recently had a very successful regional convention with attendance much higher than anticipated which is a promising sign for our region. We are having our annual trusted servants assembly March 13-15 2020 where our RD team will workshop one of the WSC 2018 IDT's. Our brand new BMLT format Regional website [mrscna.net](http://mrscna.net) will also be workshopped with our region. Our new AD Haley B who is new to zonal and world service and I are excited to grow with the SZF and the WSC.

Thanks for letting me serve,  
Chris M – RD

### **North Carolina**

9 areas, 159 groups, 360 meetings. We meet quarterly typically in Greensboro, NC. Our next RSC meeting will be February 1, 2020 in Greensboro, NC. After that we meet a week before the WSC on April 18th, 2020.

The region has not met since the zone last met in December in Charlotte, NC The region formed an Adhoc Literature Translations Committee (or LTC) for the purposes of facilitating translation into Cherokee. We are working directly with NAWS and have completed a first pass of the glossary. Our LTC is working with the Cherokee Language Consortium (Eastern and Western Band of Cherokee) to help develop new words that do not exist for some of the terminology in feeling and spirit of the NA language. IP#1 is actively being translated now. The white key tag is



awaiting approval by Cherokee speaking members of NA. We are looking for members who are fluent.

Our regional phone line continues to operate well on Yap. We are seeing increased call volume overall on the North Carolina Statewide phoneline. Many areas are starting to publish this number instead of their local number. Our projected cost for this year is about \$675, which is 750% savings since the project started. This is evidenced by our largest donation to the zone in several years. Our Region voted to move to the Zonal Yap server which will happen over the course of the next few months.

We plan to do online polling again (with the QSM plugin for Wordpress) for our group CAR tallies again this year. This allows us to quickly export all the results as an Excel sheet and calculate vote total. When we get paper tallies, we plug them into the online tally so there is a single funnel of votes. And for the first time an online CAR workshop on February 9th from 10a-1p. We have five areas that have scheduled CAR workshops (our first one was last weekend in Greensboro Area). We have an online schedule of CAR workshops and deadlines <https://ncregion-na.org/2020-workshops>.

Our Regional CAT Assembly is scheduled for March 28, 2020 in Greensboro, NC. We will take votes on the CAT and gather additional conscience

In December we donated \$1624.90 to the SEZF.

I want to say that fact that we came together for Zonal Collaboration. We discussed this idea at MZSS3 in Omaha, Nebraska November of 2018 and it actually happened.

TFLMS, Danny G RD North Carolina Region

Question to the body: How many regions are for this cycle will be doing online workshops? about 1/3

### **Red River**

Good morning from Red River Region we are as always happy to be a part of this Forum. We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in the process of growth and expansion of this world wide fellowship. The Region is in transition from 3 Areas to 1 Area. This is not foreign to us because that was what we were in the beginning when my predecessors first formed the Region. We have to change some things to better make use of our resources, which in our case the most valuable resource we have is our members. To make better use of this resource we are looking at holding our Area & Regional meeting on the same day at the same location. This would eliminate the RCM & RCMA positions at the Area level but would give those members an opportunity to support the Region at the RDA or RD position giving us the ability to have the rotation of service that is so vital. This would also allow us to possibly combine the duties of the treasurer at the Area & Regional level. By meeting at one time to conduct the business of both

bodies will allow members that were only serving at the Area level to get some exposure to what service at the Regional level looks like & would allow them to participate at both bodies without having to use any more of their personal resources i.e. time or money. We would still be conducting business as per our Area & Regional policies referring to the particular policy that applies depending on what business we are conducting. This process has worked for us in the past & will again. We still have hope for the future because we have been here before & grew from 1 Area to 3 Areas. We feel like we have learned a lot over the years & this experience will help us in the future to redevelop those rural parts of our Region into stronger more resilient Areas. We are shifting from standing committees to more project driven service which we believe is more attractive to our members because it gives them a clear cut beginning & end to a particular service position, then those members are free to take a break or pickup another position on a different project. We are also realizing the importance being vigilant in our PR efforts. They can't find recovery or be of service to the fellowship if they don't know who we are & where we are located. We are in the process of hosting the next Texas State Convention of Narcotics Anonymous in the hopes that it will have a lasting effect on our community like it has in many others by bringing an enthusiasm & a positive vibe about the fellowship and causing it to grow in those communities. We will continue to be a part of this body for as long as we continue as a Region we appreciate the open mindedness & willingness of this body to teach us how to be of better service to our members so that they have every opportunity to stay clean. We are in a process of growth both as individuals & groups. We don't have any nominations for any positions on this body at this time but we do have a \$500 donation. I have faith that with continued effort together we can accomplish what we could never do alone. We are excited in Red River about the direction our fellowship is headed in with the development of Zonal Representation for those Regions that don't always feel a part of the fellowship because they aren't seated. This opportunity for members of our Region to serve in this capacity & be able to go & participate at the Conference, on the floor with the other members of the Fellowship can only serve to motivate the members in our Region to more fully participate in the voting process by more actively participating in the CAR & CAT workshops so they can make more informed & better decisions which would give us a better and more accurate conscience of the Fellowship. The more people believe that the conscience of the fellowship is being followed will lead to an increase in the Unity of the Fellowship. The more Unified we are the more attractive we become leading more people to our meetings to find the Recovery they so desperately seek. We are a program of Hope with a Promise of Freedom & together we can.

THANKS FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE OF SERVICE  
B.J. F RD RED RIVER REGION

### **Show Me**

Our Regional Assembly is on February 29th, 2020 in Jefferson City, MO at the Capital Plaza Hotel. We will be workshopping the CAR. We have just got our Regional web site up and running [www.missourina.org](http://www.missourina.org) and we have the BMLT on our site as well. I want to thank the Lone Star Region for hosting our first collaboration event. Troy S

## South Florida

Thank you to SZF for hosting us. This was a great event. Our PR and H&I continue to be both well attended and active. The multi-regional helpline has been a great success, Thank to Florida region for collaborating on that with us. We have already begun the conversation to look into switching to YAP and away from grasshopper which wasn't really designed for what we are doing with it. PR is also looking into billboards around the region and we hope to have that up and running soon. H&I has had a big focus on supporting Gold Coast area with a sponsorship behind the walls project. Our region got much tighter financially than we are used to, our regional convention had to be moved at the last minute due to a hurricane that didn't end up hitting us, and one of our larger area events (keys spiritual retreat) hasn't happened for 3 years now due to the location being wiped out by a hurricane Irma, as well as the other area with the largest convention spending some time adjusting how they handle fund flow. This appears to have stabilized again and we are back to a more comfortable place.

## Tejas Bluebonnet

Hi SZF,

There are 11 areas in the Tejas Bluebonnet Region, and we run from Brownsville to Orange and up to north of Austin. All is going as well as can be expected in a region our size- we definitely appreciate the addition of the rural service toolbox [https://www.na.org/?ID=rural\\_service](https://www.na.org/?ID=rural_service).

Our region last met in November in Shertz, Texas and we mailed our SZF donation after that region to the treasurer. By now, you know the drill- the check is (or will be) in the mail after our next region on Feb 8 😊.

Things have been fairly quiet for the RD team this quarter, but has picked up considerably since the CAR was released in November. The RD team have attended all of the WSC conference participants webinars and are planning several CAR workshops around the region, starting next weekend at the TBRCNA.

Here is a summary of a few of the upcoming activities and conventions in the Tejas Bluebonnet region:

- TBRCNA 2020 January 31-Feb 2, 2020 Omni San Antonio at the Colonnade <https://tbrna.org/event/tejas-bluebonnet-regional-convention>
- Tejas Bluebonnet Regional Service Conference Feb 8th, Beaumont, Texas
- Central Texas Area CAR Workshop & Chili Cookoff Feb 15th Austin, Texas
- Hill Country Area & Esperanza Area CAR /CAT Workshop Feb 22nd Shertz, Texas
- Tejas Bluebonnet Regional Assembly March 14th, Victoria, Texas
- Multi-Zonal Service Symposium Sept 11 – 13th 2020 in San Antonio, TX <https://tbrna.org/event/multi-zonal-service-symposium-narcotics-anonymous>

During a recent Conference participants webinar I brought up the question of regions that are collecting CAR votes online. Thanks to the Carolina Region (I think) member who provided me with the link to their CAR online webpage. Our webmaster should be getting this online before our Regional Assembly. As a rather large region, we are also investigating having our regional assembly webcast via Zoom. More will be revealed.

I want to give a shout out to our Adopt an Inmate program that we do in conjunction with H & I our region. What that program does is provide Basic Texts to inmates in jails and prisons in Texas- all inmates need do is write and we will send them a book. Please visit our Adopt an Inmate webpage at <https://tbrna.org/adopt-an-inmate>

As I mentioned at the last Zone, the Central Texas Area has produced a new radio PSA that is now airing on local radio and TV. Let me know if you are interested in this and I'll get you in touch with the PR team.

Thank you for letting us be of service,  
Keith P & Steve P TBR RD Team

## **Volunteer**

### **Volunteer Delegate Team Report 1/26/20**

- Greetings everyone! Happy to be here in Dallas, TX!!!
- We have had some growth and advances in our Region since we last met.
- We are so thrilled to be here with our guests, the South Eastern Zone. We hope this is the beginning of a long and healthy communication and relationship to help us carry the message.
- Our VRC Guideline Adhoc is well on its way to have a comprehensive set of guidelines organizing our long standing 37 year Regional Convention. As you know we rotate between our four largest cities and have struggled to maintain continuity year over year.
- We are exploring expanding the VRC Seed money to help facilitate less Fund Raiser Fatigue and allow more effective planning on the committees part. As many of you know Hotel/Convention Center expenses have increased by as much as 300% this past year.
- We have a new AD, say hello to Vince B.
- HOT Area Nomadic Addicts: Our HOT Area continues its Nomadic Addicts initiative, carrying a meeting to struggling locations and supporting them over a course of months, not hours. Their recent training had 20 members attend and 3 attend via Zoom. Of the attendees 9 traveled more than hour for training. They use the Rural Co-Op model from the Guide To Local Service. As a result of using this service and making these outlying groups believe their voice matters 4 of the groups we were supporting with the Rural Co-Op now have active GSR's who regularly attend their Area Meeting.



- 2020 CAR Motion with SCRNA: Our joint motion with SCRNA has been released with the CAR and we have been invited to discuss the motion with several different Zonal and Regional CAR Workshops. We are happy to participate in this discussion and will explain our decision to submit this motion and how it came to be with anyone who invites us.

#### **In Loving Service**

Jim B.

## **6. Workgroup Reports**

### **H&I – SEZF**

Lucas: We’ve had a couple of zoom meetings for folks to share experience, problems and solutions. Last zone we decided we need some consistency, like same time every month so we’re doing them every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 1600. Provides an opportunity for folks to share. Everyone welcome. <https://zoom.us/j/862484930>

### **PR/Fellowship Development – SZF**

Charmaine: As you can see we have a little oddity as far as our name goes that’s because we have a hard time making a final decision sometimes on what things should be called and how we should move forward within what the groups and areas and regions want the zone to look like. I suggested at our last zonal meeting that we call it a Liaison because basically I think that’s what we do – we try and interact with wherever we’re going and try and cooperate and provide collaboration on which we had to do a lot of for this particular event and we want to thank the Lone Star Region and the Dallas Area for all the work that they put into this weekend because it was a big endeavor. We had some struggles through it but we worked it out. It’s a we program and that’s what we do wherever we go. I’ve officially been working as a temporary because we haven’t made the jump to make myself official in that position however last zonal meeting we did create the Fellowship Development PR position but now we have the actual election which will be coming up to make whoever winds up actually doing the public relations job. In the meantime, we don’t believe that anyone should suffer by not having services so I volunteered to continue in it until we make a decision. We feel as though the decision should always be made in the correct process and that’s how we do things. But in the meantime, somebody always fills

in to do the work. And so that's why I'm here and that's what we've been doing. We've put on several events since I've been acting in this position – 3 so far. And I've been trying to link whomever is needing information from one region to another or even areas that are looking for support in just training because trainings are so important that we're getting the message out and providing it in the correct way that our PR Handbook is suggested. Because there are a lot of people trying to do the work and really don't have the tools yet. I really make sure that whatever is necessary we connect the right people because I don't have all the answers and none of us do but at least we try and know someone who does know the answer and put people together. To me that's what public relations is about – to be able to carry the message. 84 professionals for PR for Professionals event. 47 in Fellowship training workshop. Breakout rooms 57. Went over budget. Depending on how that is broken down – complete spending was 883, including travel. What Southern Zone did not budget was over \$257

## PR – SEZF

### **What:**

The Southeastern Zonal Forum PR Task Force's primary function is to facilitate joint, multi-regional efforts that serve our member regions PR Efforts and are directly responsible to the Zonal Forum. The objective is to build communication throughout the PR efforts of the member regions, and Areas, and to assist regions in furthering their PR goals.

**Who:** Task force membership is comprised of Area and regional PR trusted servants and interested members. The task force itself also includes the following trusted servants:

**Facilitator: Ramon** Facilitates meetings using CBDM so should have experience with CBDM. Assists with scheduling of meetings with other required personnel. works with secretary to set agenda for meetings. Is responsible for recording Zoom meetings. Works with SEZF Liaison to appoint project leaders with agreement of the Task Force. 2-year term Elected in July of odd numbered years. Is responsible for Zoom login and hosting of all Zoom meetings of the task force. Provides Zoom login to Project leaders when necessary.

**SEZF Liaison: Forgot his name** May be elected by the task force but should be ratified by the Zonal delegates. Prepares and submits task force reports for meetings of the SEZF. Assumes responsibilities of the Facilitator in his or her absence. Assumes responsibility of Secretary in their absence. Assists with scheduling of meetings with other required personnel. Suggested to be a seated delegate of the SEZF, but not required. Writes and arranges for all proposals that need to be brought to the SEZF. Is not a funded position to the SEZF. 2-year term Elected in September of even numbered years.

**Secretary: Open** Keeps updated and accurate records of Task Force Zoom meetings. Works with Liaison to keep updated contact information of PR Contacts throughout the zone. Prepares invites and reminders for Task Force meetings in conjunction with the Liaison and Facilitator. Secretary elected in November of even numbered years.

**Project Leaders: Varied** Appointed by Facilitator and/or Liaison when a project is approved and created by the Task force or assigned to the task force by the SEZF. Is responsible for planning and implementation of the project. Should create A Project plan with timeline to be approved by the Task force. Will facilitate any Project meetings needed to complete the tasks assigned to

the project group. Will submit any funding requests to the Liaison to be requested by the SEZF, these funding requests must be approved by the Delegates at the SEZF.

**Past completed projects of the task force:** By design the task force has been strictly supportive and reactive.

**Additional Needs Project group:** Lead by Rose-Marie B. This has been an ongoing project pretty much the entire time the task force has existed. We are excited that they will likely be becoming their own task force during this weekend, but also sad to see them go. Rose will be providing a separate report.

**NC Professional day Project Group:** Lead by Thomas the PR Chair of North Carolina Region, this was a very successful event that included about a dozen professionals, including treatment organizations and non-prophets. Nationwide Opioid and RX Conference: We financially supported GA Region's attendance at this event. All reports show this was a successful event, with lots of interest by national organizations, also resulted in the creation of a new H&I meeting outside our zone. A ton of literature given away.

**Current and future projects:** The last two Zoom meetings have been attempts at planning. So far, this planning has created some positive results, but is an ongoing process. In December we decided to explore possible ways to increase collaboration with other nearby Zones. To Achieve this, we changed our meeting time to be one hour before the monthly meeting of NEZF PR, allowing us a better chance to attend their meetings, and making it easier for them to come to ours. This proved to be a very good decision, at the first meeting on the new schedule we had quite a bit of crossover between the two, and a new project plan was unanimously adopted by both.

The new project plan begins with light strategic planning by both zones, soliciting idea's from within the zones for Workshops, training videos, and informational video's that we can record together and make available for our fellowship. These idea's will then be prioritized by the project group and then production of these videos can begin. We also found out that there is already a large amount of video's like this available out there already. So, we will be able to use some already created and limit the amount we will need to record ourselves.

We have begun the staffing of this project group already and would certainly welcome interested parties that wish to get involved. We would request the RD's of our zone to seek input from your regions, and member Area's on what they would like to have created for them. Although our scope would be in PR matters, Idea's that are outside our area of expertise can be turned over to the other existing Task Forces, Work Groups, and committees within our zones and I'm sure someone will run with the idea.

We would also like to thank the southern Zone for hosting us this weekend, and for allow us to be of service during the Friday PR Event, I hope it was a successful event. And we look forward to continuing to work with you guys in the future.

**A Loving servant of NA**

#### **BMLT – SEZF**

Summary: Everything is working, NAWS has the latest meeting information from our zone, and Florida is moving to the Zonal server.

Details:

- Exports of the meeting data, with the exception of the South Florida Region (at their request), have been sent to NAWS monthly. They were last sent to NAWS on January 19, 2020.
- The latest versions of Yap (3.6.2) and the Root Server (2.14.6) are running on the server.
- All security patches have been installed on the server.
- The Florida Region has passed a motion to move from their regional Root Server to the zonal Root Server. We are working with Ezra from Florida Region to assist the region and member areas with the migration. Tentatively, the cut-over date for Florida Region is March 21. After the Florida region has merged, all of the SEZF member regions will be using the Zonal Server.

Thank you for letting us serve!

Jonathan B, BMLT Task Force Coordinator

### **Additional Needs – SEZF**

Good morning all! My name is Rose Marie and I am an addict. I am the Additional Needs workgroup chair for the SEZF.

NA Literature IP 26 Additional Needs and the Additional Needs Resource Information booklet was Fellowship and Conference Approved in 1998/99. The Literature addresses how to accommodate physical, vision and hearing disabilities in NA meetings, Conferences and Conventions, along with a mention of service dogs. It was recommended to establish a permanent standing committee for Add Needs on all levels of service. By 2003, Add Needs and the Literature was almost totally forgotten and when spoken of, called “an outside issue”.

In 2018, I was invited to the SEZF PR group. We decided to have an Additional Needs workgroup and from there it has grown, including international members.

Past work: created an updated ASL White Book version, including a glossary and a professional ASL interpreter glossary. It is under NAWS translation review. We produced a workshop at the Florida Service Symposium with the first ever all disabled addict presenters to include a service dog. We produced a Vision Impaired and Hearing-Impaired set of guidelines for meetings. We identified accessibility challenges on the NA.org website, in particular those with vision impairment. We have received support from the NA WB and send them information and created guidelines. As a direct outgrowth, a NA Deaf Zoom meeting (**Flyer attached**), with an interpreter (and open to any addict) currently meets Thursdays and Saturdays. Several Deaf treatment centers have their patients attending the meeting.

Present work: Outreach guidelines bringing the NA message to Blind and Deaf schools and treatment centers. Research shows over 1.5 million deaf and blind addicts in the U.S. alone. Addicts asked us for a list of meetings that have ASL interpreters. So far, we have only found 3 active meetings in the U.S. Deaf U.S. NA members asked us for assistance with accessibility challenges. One situation is in the SZF: several conventions stated that there were no funds to



hire an interpreter nor had anyone asked for an interpreter. There were no instructions on the registration forms on how to ask or inform the convention of an Additional Need. We are actively working on solutions, as it will adversely affect NA as a whole. We will be presenting a workshop to the GA convention on Feb 22.

Future goals: To work with other Zones on education and assistance to groups to meet accessibility challenges. When the ASL White Book is approved, we will create NA ASL literature. We would also like to see an updated version of the IP 26 Additional Needs and the Additional Needs Resource Information booklet, to include being internationally inclusive. IP 26 is on the Literature Review portion of the CAR and we hope you will all vote for it. We will continue to advocate for all levels of service to have Additional Needs in place. Lastly, we hope that our continued work insures, as stated by Traditions 3 & 5, that an addict, any addict, regardless of disability can receive the lifesaving message of NA.

Today you had a live example of addicts with disabilities not being able to access a meeting. We have 3 deaf and 1 blind member present on Zoom as well as an ASL interpreter. Please realize the disabled addict population is growing, especially our senior population, and we do want to be a part of, and not apart from, the Fellowship. Please update the Additional Needs Literature and educate and advocate for our disabled NA members.

#### **Fund Flow Workgroup – SEZF**

They all resigned.

#### **Communications Workgroup - SEZF**

Kelly: not much progress to be reported. We're getting ready for the conference.

"He didn't get the email." "Can't find it in an email." "Whats the hotel reservation" STOP replying all. "I'm not longer in this position." "Take me off this list." "I don't want to be on FaceBook." "Slack sounds like crack I don't want anything to do with it."

We talked about this at zonal meetings, looked at different options. Came up with Beam. What comes with acceptance and use of technology? Difficult for folks to accept and to use. You can create a great tool but no one will accept it or use it. They might accept it, but too complicated to use.

BMLT is a great study on acceptance and use. It's been in use for 10 years and within last 2 years that exponential growth took off. Other people have seen this and are creating other applications: bread, crouton, tomato, yap.... Everyone is benefiting. All goes back to the BMLT root server.

You can login to beam, associate with service body. Only other function it is offering is to make posts and communicate amongst zone members. Our region could have used this on 2 occasions. it was going to be somewhere in Florida. Remember the hurricane coming up? Day before region we all panicked. Who has a number for John? What about Mary? If we had beam it would have been easy. Beam has the ability to send through email and we're making some improvements. Development of this tool has frozen for now. Hopefully after conference we'll

gear back up and hope to use this as primary communication for the zone and explore options to distribute the tool to regions and areas. Central place that doesn't require application like FaceBook and no complicated features, etc.

Q: Is it possible that the planning for multi zonal can access beam? A: as of this time, no.

Q: What is the difference between this and email? A: email is decentralized with individual access to their information. We don't know how individuals manage their emails.

Q: How is this different from email? A: can unsubscribe or subscribe. Can go into beam and see the thread and info I need to know.

Q: What made this an advantage of this over some current platforms like what's app? A: This is an app developed by addicts, for addicts, similar to BMLT and YAP.

Q: This is basically an app that you get a userid that gets you into it or not and then you send the application an email and everyone gets it? A: The primary benefit is that people register and are associated with a service body. They can get emails or texts of info. Other features will be developed and improved over time.

Q: Georgia region started this initiative and don't use personal emails. They assign regional emails. A: let's focus on Beam

## **7. Discussion**

### **NEZF Proposal for 2020 WSC**

**PDF & PowerPoint attached to minutes**

### **National Helpline**

**Attached to minutes.**

### **Staci requested help for funding.**

Seeing no opposition, SEZF will write a check for \$1000.

### **2022 Joint Zonal CAR/CAT workshop in Southeastern Zone (Atlanta)**

This has been an incredible pleasurable experience.

In the future – do we want to do this again 2 years from now in Atlanta?

Comment: Please invite plains state zonal.... A: We can invite everyone.

Thanks to WB for their participation.

## **8. End Joint Meeting; Break out into separate zonal meetings**