



August 14th, 2022

SEZF Minutes

VIA Hybrid

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Close Meeting 11:45am

Roll Call

Facilitator

Secretary Treasurer

Web Servant

Alabama/NW Florida RD

Alabama/NW Florida AD

Carolina RD

Carolina AD

Florida RD

Florida AD

Georgia RD

Georgia AD

North Carolina RD

North Carolina AD

South Florida RD

South Florida AD

Additional Needs Task Force

BMLT Task Force

H&I Task Force

PR Task Force

- 1. Meeting was opened at 9:00 am est. Jeff led the Serenity Prayer**
- 2. The Traditions were read**
- 3. The Concepts were read**
- 4. The Mission Statement was read as follows**

The mission of the Southeastern Zonal Forum is to provide a regularly scheduled time and place where representatives of the member regions come together to further our primary purpose, "to carry the message of recovery to the still suffering addict", through service oriented discussions, workshops, events and task forces. The Southeastern Zonal Forum's primary function is to facilitate joint, multi-regional efforts that serve our member regions and are directly responsible to the Regional Service Committees within the zone.

Roll Call/Contact Sheet

Name	Position	Here	Phone Number	Email Address
Jeff P.	Facilitator	Y	954-850-0122	Jpaul095bv@gmail.com
Harold H	Secretary Treasurer	Y	205 243 7854	handhsafetysolutions@gmail.com
Patrick J	Webservant	Y	508-939-1663	pjaudiomv@gmail.com
Kelly S	RD Alabama NW Florida	Y	909-263-2300	navykel@gmail.com
John R	AD Alabama NW Florida	Y	251-554-9286	johnr2795@gmail.com
Patrick J	RD Carolina	Y		rd@crna.org
	AD Carolina	Y	508-939-1663	alt.rd@crna.org
Joel B	RD Florida	Y	518-461-1174	joel_bergman@msn.com
Ramon R	AD Florida	Y	727-213-7419	tiogoody@gmail.com
Jimmy N	RD Georgia	Y	770-855-9235	dubose.nunn@gmail.com
	AD Georgia	Y		
Jacob S	RD North Carolina	Y	919-357-3454	jmshonberg@protonmail.com
	AD North Carolina	Y		
Mat S	RD South Florida	Y	754-368-2212	goldcoastmat@gmail.com
Jon B	AD South Florida	Y	239-980-1528	Jvbacon61@gmail.com
Joann	H&I Taskforce	Y	917-567-0530	Cyberjoann2001@yahoo.com
Ramon R	PR Taskforce	Y	727-213-741	tiogoody@gmail.com
Jonathon B	BMLT Taskforce	Y	404-542-9363	jon.braswell@gmail.com
Jocho	Additional Needs Taskforce	Y		hareodog@mindspring.com

10/12 voting members present. Note: Only RDs and ADs are voting members

The following list is for interested members that will be blind carbon copied on official SEZF correspondence.

Name	Region	Email Address
Mark M		csemark.office@gmail.com
Neal S	Zonal Point of Contact	

**Shifted the order of business due some member having early flights.
(consensus)**

Old Business-

- Survey info to be continued, cut off date is December 16
- Proposal to create work group for a direct contact list (phone numbers)
Proposal will remain on the table-waiting on more info
- Zonal work group for Eastern States Zones, it was stated that any any region can join their region. (Kelly, Matt, and Robert will be on the work group
- Two of our members are participants in the meeting of Zones (Jeff and Kelly have been actively participating in this activity). They will be replace with John and Neal on this work group, anyone can attend. More info will be posted by Jeff to the participants.
- Zonal recommendations for Kelly S. to nominated for the World Board. This is time sensitive and must be dealt with today - Consensus reached. Kelly gave qualifications and will be included in the minutes.
Unanimous

New Business

Proposal: Additional Needs Guidelines

Call to a Vote

Proposal Passed Unanimously

Proposal: To Approve the budget for the next two cycles

H&I stated that they will keep the same budget of zero (0), but if they have to help a Spanish zoom meeting, they would come and ask for help

Question asked along with a proposal to increase “Special Events” budget to \$5000.00

Proposal Passed Unanimously

Proposal: To extend the current budget to December 31, 2023.

Proposal Passed Unanimously

New business continue

- H&I Chair - Entertained the thought of separating the Secretary/Treasurer position (next meeting come back with a proposal)
- Next agenda - We need to a plan and agenda for what we are going to do under “Special Events”.
- Craig stated that we need to look at Strategic Planning in the future so that the members will have an understanding of what’s taking place

Proposal: from Patrick, To change the hosting company of our zonal website

Proposal: Florida Region made a proposal to conduct a Zonal CAR/CAT workshop at the February 2023 Zonal meeting to collaborate on it with us. (Jeff will lead)

Proposal Passed Unanimously

PR task force conducted a workshop in the Pan Handle of Florida and was approached by the PR Chair in Dothan AL. (ALNWFL) who requested a PR workshop and the purchasing of some literature for this event

Questions:

Did they not go to the ALNWFL for assistance

Answer: They were approached by an inexperienced member that does not understand the service structure and fund flow

Kelly: This was not discussed at the ALNWFL RSC and we need to reimburse the zone for their expense.

- **Secretary:** Notice that their was no charge from Digital Ocean (YAP), also the date correction to the minutes has been done.
- **WEB:** Up and running good, apologize for not updating in a timely manner, besides that, things are good
- **ALNWFL:** 342 meetings, coming out of the pandemic
Meeting with the state correctional facilities officials for introducing “E-Literature” into the prison system, looking at motion that requires face to face meeting

Reports - SEZF:

FACILITATOR REPORT

August 14, 2022

The US Meeting of Zones has met twice since our last SEZF meeting. Most of the discussion has centered around the survey sent to Regions and continuing to get the message out to regions as to what this “body” is, what it’s doing, and ideas for where it can go in the future. Members of the US Zones Action Plan Task Team have been holding workshops as requested to disseminate the information.

I would like to ask that an RD propose an idea to hold a Multi-Zonal CAR/CAT workshop like we held in Atlanta this year along with the Southern and Northeastern Zones, but this time to make it an entirely virtual event and invite all the US zones to collaborate on it. That would make it the first ever Virtual, Zonal, National CAR/CAT workshop. This could be a step towards seeing how/if a national collaborative effort could work.

The Meeting of (all) Zones met once since our last SEZF meeting. Most of that meeting dealt with how the zones and the regions within them have been doing with restarting services since world has reopened. Almost all are in the process of transitioning back to f2f meetings.

Kelly and I have been representing the SEZF at those two service meetings for...a long time. I’m burnt out and don’t have the desire to continue. I talked to Kelly about it and since we’ll have the Eastern States workgroup as well, and he’d rather do that, I need to select two new members to represent us. I’ve placed that on the agenda for later today.

As far as the Eastern States Workgroup that we created at our last zonal meeting, I sent invitations to the Autonomy and Northeastern Zones to participate. The Autonomy Zone agreed to do so, and the NE Zone did not. But, while the NE Zone voted not to participate in the workgroup, they did decide that any region can join their zone. Therefore, the workgroup will consist of three members from our zone and three from the Autonomy Zone. Having listened in to the meetings of the NE Zone, I’m certain they will have several of their participants attending, and the

In Service,

Jeff P
SEZF Facilitator

B. Secretary/Treasurer

Southeastern Zonal Forum

Secretary/Treasurer Report

February 13, 2022

Hello family,

First, I want to thank God for allowing me to be here clean and in recovery, and it's always good to participate in my recovery. Glad to be of service as SEZF Secretary/Treasurer.

Nothing much to report on this month. If you have events or other information that you need posted on the website please let Jeff and myself know so we can get it in the appropriate. Also, if the minutes are not out and you need minutes questions answered, you can call me at 205 243 7854 or just email me. My email address is as follow handhsafetysolutions@gmail.com.

From the treasure rside, as you may or may not know, the majority of all transactions are automatic, exceptions checks, I write when I am directed to. See attached report In service to be of service;
Harold H.

February Minutes were approved (made correction to the date)

Web Servant – verbal only

Everything going good with the Website. Working with the Florida Region on Zonal activity. Looking to get video and post on YouTube. Question asked about putting power points out there for members to see. PR is taking responsibility for heading this up

BMLT Task Force

SEZF BMLT Task Force, August 14, 2022

- We moved to a larger server to accommodate the increased usage of our zonal BMLT and Yap Server. This seems to have fixed some minor instability issues with the server, and it is running smoothly.
- The BMLT Root Server software is running smoothly and on the latest version.
- Yap is running smoothly, but there are a couple of non-critical open issues waiting on fixes from the Yap developers. One non-critical issue with reporting was fixed by the yap developers, and I am confident that the open issues will be fixed soon.

Fixed Issue: Meeting search calls and texts were not showing up in reports. We opened a bug report with the Yap GitHub repo, and it was fixed about a week ago. Issue: <https://github.com/bmlt-enabled/yap/issues/594>

Open Issue: For calls where the caller chooses to speak to a volunteer, you can no longer tell which volunteer answered the call. Issue: <https://github.com/bmlt-enabled/yap/issues/613>

Open Issue: A benign error is displayed when logging into Yap. It is related to running a zonal server with the "bring your own twilio" model. It does not actually impact operations of the server, but it doesn't look good and does generate questions. Issue: <https://github.com/bmlt-enabled/yap/issues/614>

- We partnered with an addict serving at the WSZF to develop new open source software for NAWS called Dijon. Dijon makes NAWS' job of synchronizing the worldwide BMLT meeting databases with their meeting database easier and faster. We assisted NAWS with onboarding all 40 of the BMLT Root Servers onto the new process.

Jonathan B
404-542-9363
jon.braswell@gmail.com

H and I

- H&I meet every 4th Sunday at 7pm (est)
- Reached out to many areas and regions in the world
- We have been attending H&I meetings in our region
- Attended the Northern New Jersey Convention

PR Task Force -

Looking at ZLTLS - on our website, it shows our activity in Atlanta

- Strategic group has been meeting
- Email address is ad.na.org
- Trusted servants are rolling off

Jocho explained the process of retaining interpreters, Craig showed a slide show

SEZF Public Relations Task Force
Work Plan 2021-2023

I. Structure

- A. Possibly combine with Local Service Task Force described tasks
 - Local service delivery, mentorship
- B. Review and modify internal guidelines as needed to reflect any changes
 - As we work through our work plan, all unplanned activities will be measured against our priorities, current service requests, and resources
 - Develop metrics to evaluate effectiveness of projects
- C. Help to establish Area PR subcommittees/services as requested

II. Resources/Training

- A. Monitor the task force budget to track actual spending and trends based on current services, subcommittee planning and future growth in services
- B. Help develop PR orientation and training for member areas/regions
- C. Help develop local PR knowledge base; service catalog of PR resources
- D. Cross train subcommittee members in various functions to facilitate continuity and develop additional resources
- E. Develop PR presentation to utilize within the fellowship and with the public
- F. Plan and conduct 2 Service-Learning Days for recruitment of new members and training for subcommittee trusted servants
- G. Sign up and participate in PR Webinars offered by NA World Services

III. Communication

- A. Develop and utilize surveys and other communication tools to continue being responsive to member areas/regions and assist in their PR efforts
- B. Website oversight
- C. Develop tools for better communication throughout the zone?

IV. Collaboration

- A. Search out opportunities to coordinate PR services more effectively between regions within the SEZF
- B. Develop better collaboration with other zones
- C. Plan for PR Week June 2022; Multi-regional PR Day

V. Services

- A. Review and evaluate the effectiveness of current PR services we provide to consider opportunities for improvement, growth, and sustainability; create annual evaluation
- B. Identify professional events for attendance and participation; create, maintain calendar
- C. Search out new opportunities for building effective public relationships - within the Southeastern US- Media, Criminal Justice, Healthcare, Government- helping facilitate fellowship growth by enhanced recognition of NA as a resource and viable program of recovery
- D. Develop/implement process for submission and review of requests for PR services from the fellowship and/or professionals
- E. Develop Fellowship Development plan- Unity, Self-Support, Leadership development, Attraction to service, Mentorship

Additional Needs Task Force – See attached

➤ Report sent, read by Matt

Nominations Kelly S. (ALNWFL) for World Board - Proposal Passed Unanimously

Plans for the next Zonal meeting (Hybrid)

December 2-4 meeting will be held in West Palm Beach (South Florida Region).

Meeting closed with the Serenity prayer.

Regional Reports:

1. Alabama/NW Florida - see attached

Emerging out of the pandemic by using technology. GBA and South Jefferson is flourishing using the available technology. Some areas are struggling and we are reaching out to those areas to find out what can the region do to assist them. The Greater Birmingham Area Convention of NA will be held at the BJCC/Sheraton hotel, November 18-20, 2022.

2. Carolina –

Meeting virtually, suggestion meet hybrid, no one showed. There is a virtual meeting (**Trans Umbrella Area**) wanting to join an area, it failed. Looking at amending the policy

3. Florida

Continuing to strive- Thanks to the fellowship for sending their concerns in regards to the incident that happened in one of our meetings in the region. PR has been involved, the press has not been nice in the way this incident was reported. If you are approached by the media in this regards, please direct them to naflorida.org. The local hospital is proving grief counseling. Upcoming events include the Florida Fun Coast Convention

4. Georgia – See attached

- GRCNA will be held in Peachtree City, March 16-19, 2023
- History book is still in progress
- Looking at setting up a GSR Assembly (MWBR)
- Looking for assistance with the Georgia history book

5. North Carolina – Things are OK, moving towards Hybrid meeting. We are trying to work our way back to face to face meetings We have a lots of remote areas. We will get with Kelly on the technology Issues we are experiencing. Thanks to everyone for your support in putting on this SEZF weekend.

6. South Florida –

We have 17 areas, by missing 3 meetings, areas are removed from the roll call which affects quorum. SoFRCNA will take place on Labor Day weekend, please register and support

Review Attached Budget and Treasurer's Report
Southeastern Zonal Forum Statement of Financial Position
August 2022 - 5th Meeting - Raleigh/Durham (North Carolina Region)

Available Balance:
\$18,766.07
Ledger Balance:
\$18,766.07
Pending Withdrawals:\$0.00
Pending Deposits:\$0.00
Last Deposit Amount:\$1,546.95
5/23/2022
Last Statement Balance:\$18,766.07
7/29/2022

Beginning Balance:	\$16,912.06
Credits (+):	\$6,546.95
Debits (-):	\$1,692.94
Ending Balance:	\$18,766.07
Net Income:	\$6,546.95
Monthly Bank Statement Consolidation	
Ending Bank Balance From Bank Statement	\$18,766.07
Outstanding Checks Total	\$0.00
Difference (\$0.00 means consolidated)	\$0.00

<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Withdrawals</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Balance</i>
5/23/2022	DEPOSIT XXXX0792		\$1,546.95	\$18,766.07
5/4/2022	DEPOSIT XXXX3520		\$2,000.00	\$17,219.12
2/16/2022	CHECK 5032 072542746	\$357.00		\$15,219.12
2/14/2022	CHECK 5033 077732574	\$73.50		\$15,576.12
2/14/2022	CHECK 5034 077620778	\$807.85		\$15,649.62
2/14/2022	CASHED CHECK 5035 038739225	\$454.59		\$16,457.47
2/14/2022	DEPOSIT XXXX9222		\$3,000.00	\$16,912.06

Southeastern Zonal Forum Statement of Financial Position

August 2022 - 5th Meeting - Raleigh/Durham (North Carolina Region)

Date	Description	Income Category	Check Number	Amount
2/14/22	Florida	Contribution		3,000.00
5/4/22	South Florida	Contribution		2,000.00
5/23/22	North Carolina	Contribution		1,196.33
5/24/22	North Carolina	Contribution		350.62
Total				\$6,546.95

Expense

Date	Check Written To	Description	Budget Category	Check Number	Check Amount	Budget Amount
		No Expense since last meeting				


Southeastern Zonal Forum Statement of Financial Position
August 2022 - 5th Meeting - Raleigh/Durham (North Carolina Region)

Expense To Date				
Budget Category	Budget Item	Expense Budget	Expenses To Date	Expenses Remaining
1	Facility Cost of Zonal Weekends	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
2	Trusted Servant Travel	\$2,400.00	\$392.01	\$2,007.99
3	Trusted Servant Lodging	\$1,000.00	\$809.18	\$190.82
4	Trusted Servant Per Diem	\$880.00	\$0.00	\$880.00
5	Funding of NAWS or WB Participation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
6	Technology	\$1,450.00	\$593.70	\$856.30
7	Corporate Filings	\$122.50	\$0.00	\$122.50
8	Special Events	\$1,000.00	\$4,657.00	-\$3,657.00
9	Bank Charges & Misc	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$35.00
10	Additional Needs	\$1,000.00	\$128.50	\$871.50
11	PR Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	H&I Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	\$10,887.50	\$6,580.39	\$4,307.11

Southeastern Zonal Forum Statement of Financial Position

Proposed Budgets Jan 2023 thru Dec 2024

(note: We will revisit and continue to operate under the current budget that has been extended thru Dec 2023)

 SOUTHEASTERN ZONAL FORUM				
Budget Tracking				
0				
Income By Region				
Income Category	Income From	Income Budget	Income To Date	Remaining Budget
A	Alabama NW Florida		\$0.00	
B	Carolina		\$0.00	
C	Florida		\$0.00	
D	Georgia		\$0.00	
E	North Carolina		\$0.00	
F	South Florida		\$0.00	
G	Misc		\$0.00	
	Total	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	(\$10,000.00)
Income by Meeting				
Meeting		Projected	Actual	Difference
1		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
2		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
3		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
4		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
5		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
6		\$1,667.00	\$0.00	(\$1,667.00)
	Total	\$10,002.00	\$0.00	(\$10,002.00)

Southeastern Zonal Forum Statement of Financial Position

August 2022 - 5th Meeting - Raleigh/Durham (North Carolina Region)

Proposed Budgets Jan 2023 thru Dec 2024

(note: We will revisit and continue to operate under the current budget that has been extended thru Dec 2023)



Budget Tracking

Budget Category	Budget Item	Expense Budget	Expenses To Date	Expenses Remaining
1	Facility Cost of Zonal Weekends	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
2	Trusted Servant Travel	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
3	Trusted Servant Lodging	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
4	Trusted Servant Per Diem	\$880.00	\$0.00	\$880.00
5	Funding of NAWS or WB Participation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	Technology	\$1,450.00	\$0.00	\$1,450.00
7	Corporate Filings	\$122.50	\$0.00	\$122.50
8	Special Events	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
9	Bank Charges & Misc	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$35.00
10	7761.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	H&I Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	PR Task Force	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Total	\$10,387.50	\$0.00	\$10,387.50

Written Reports

Alabama NW Florida Regional

Report for South East Zonal Forum

14 August 2022

Greetings! Alabama NW Florida continues to recover from the devastating effects of COVID. We currently have 342 weekly meetings: 279 Face-to-Face, 5 Hybrid, and 58 virtual meetings. Area service committees continue to face challenges with small sub-committees and low attendance by groups at the Area meeting. The Region has begun to meet once again Hybrid with growing attendance and participation both in person and virtual.

Opportunities

- MCANA has an active project to provide E-Literature to State Prison tablets. It is expected to be complete by the next SEZF meeting.
- The success of this project will have Statewide implications for NA and our mission to carry the message into the prisons.
- The Region now has a PR Chair and H&I Chair. We are excited to see how these subcommittees will impact local services.

Challenges

- An Area motioned to remove the Hybrid participation at Region and require all Regions to participate in person. This motion has gone back to Groups for discussion and vote. What experience are other Regions having with Virtual, Hybrid participation being modified or eliminated altogether?
- Central West Alabama continues to be an area of concern for our Region
- Effective communication between the Region and Areas continues to be a challenge. Have any Regions looked at social media as a communication medium to help improve the quality of information between Groups, Areas, and Regions?

Summary

As a Region, we feel that we are at the beginning of new growth in our fellowship and less of being at the end of a difficult period that significantly impacted our face-to-face participation. There is a resurgence in local services. PR events in Wiregrass Area and Madison County Areas are signs of increased participation, inspiring and motivating new members to participate. We hope that the next time we meet at the SEZF we will report more PR events and an increase in H&I panels.

In Loving Service,
Kelly S RD ALNWFL

Georgia Region Report for SEZF

Date: 8/14/2022

Submitted by: Jimmy N. – RD
Robert L. - AD

- Georgia Regions has 19 Areas
 - Region is meeting in Hybrid format and attendance is strong
 - Our last Regional Meeting was held as Hybrid meeting was held June 11-12th
 - Next Region is September 10-11th
- Georgia Region is doing very well financially. We have seen a significant increase in donations in the Georgia Region. A Traditional \$15,000 donations to NAWS per year has grown to over \$26,000. Reasons would include:
 - Electronic Donations
 - Decrease in expenses due to Zoom
- RCMs passed motion to create a new committee for IT Services
- We have begun plans to create an annual GSR Assembly
- We are seeing more live meetings coming back in person, but there are still some meetings sticking to Zoom
- GRCNA will be held in Peachtree City at the Crowne Plaza March 16-19th 2023
- Progress continues on the Georgia History Book sub Committee. They are beginning the writing phase and are looking for help with members that have writing skills.
- We had our elections for Admin Committee. We have a few Alternate Spots open but most positions are filled.

The Additional Needs Task Force has recently completed 2 major goals that had been worked upon for the past several months.

The first is having created, and presented at the Symposium, the Accessibility on Virtual Platforms guideline. In addition, we submitted suggestions to the WSC Virtual Meetings Basics Workgroup in regards to Additional Needs accessibility. We were extremely pleased to find all our suggestions were included in the WSC guideline! We did send the Workgroup, through Nick Elson at NAWA, a thank you letter for their hard work and taking the time to include our suggestions.

We also received a letter in return, thanking us for our work. Nick stated: "Thank you, Jocho, for this kind gesture. I forwarded your email and the letter to the Board. The work of the Additional Needs project team helped to make Virtual Meeting Basics a better service tool, so please pass our thanks on to them. I also appreciate your role as the connection between the task force and NA World Services. We are grateful for your service. "

The second major goal was to create an Additional Needs guideline for conventions, conferences, and events. After working on this almost 1 year, the guideline is finished and being presented to this Zonal meeting! We ask the Regions review and send us any questions or critiques. If it is found acceptable, we would wish that the Regions would approve of this guideline. Once approved, we can share it with the ability for it to be changed to a Regional policy, if so desired. We do wish to share that this is the first time in Narcotics Anonymous history that a guideline for Additional Needs service functions and events has ever been created. We hope that this guideline will be a helpful guide for NA members to aid in making service functions and events accessible.

Upon Zonal approval, we do have the additional goal of sharing this guideline with the WSC Conventions and Events Workgroup.

We are seeking additional members for our group, in particular those members who are deaf or hard of hearing. Our group has grown smaller due to illness and progressive disability. We do have one project we would love to do: take all the guidelines we have written for Zone and put them in an Additional Needs Handbook, similar to PR and H&I have. We can also edit out any of the U.S. specifics guidance and make it Worldwide. We would be working with both Brazil and Canada on this project, along with countries that wish to join. However, we would need members who would be willing to work towards that goal, especially those with writing skills. Please let your regions know of this request.

Our close collaboration with the Brazilian Zonal Additional Needs has been such a blessing. Their members contribute and participate in many of the projects and meetings we have. The sharing of ideas and solutions have led

to both the creations of the recent guidelines as well as Brazil furthering Additional Needs in their own country.

We understand that there have been several meetings of a proposed U.S. Zones. We would like to be included in this, if at all possible.

As always, we are available for any workshops the groups may want.

Budget: for the Additional Needs Task Force for the upcoming year:

ASL Services for the Additional Needs Task Force: same as last year, \$1000.

Copies/miscellaneous: same as last year, \$300

Thank you!

In loving service,
Jocho B.

SEZF Additional Needs Task Force Chair

Events

Events referred to in this section include all NA activities conducted either separately or in conjunction with business meetings; and whether held indoors or outdoors. Events provide us with the opportunity to socialize with each other, outside of meetings. This socialization allows us to practice and put to use what we learn in the rooms. Many times, however, there are some members who cannot access the event place – and therefore are denied the ability-natural opportunity to forge deeper relationships associations-outside of recovery meetings.

It is necessary to state that there will be events that cannot be made **completely** Additional Needs accessible. In cases such as these, there will be suggestions on how to at least have a setting where socialization can be accessed.

Trusted Servants: The majority of the time, events will be hosted by an Activities Committee or a Committee that is part of an Area, Region or larger. Occasionally it could be by a Home Group. Coordinating with an Additional Needs POC or Additional Needs Committee would be extremely helpful.

Contracts: When making contracts with a venue, keep in mind accessibility. Accessibility is a high consideration regarding the event area, along with bathroom access (including port-a-jons)

Site Selection:

- Parking areas and/or shuttles

- Event Site Support:

Ask if there are adaptive devices available on loan; such as ramps for bowling, verbal description via Bluetooth or recording, etc.)

Programming:

It is important for whatever committee is handling Programming for the event to consider attendees with Additional Needs, and how to make the event as accessible as possible, including:

- Flyers and publicity + registration
- Speakers, entertainment, etc.
- Activities being planned – SEE BELOW

Indoor Events

- Auditorium/screen/stage/performance
- Dinners/Banquets/Restaurants/Coffee shops – Braille/large print menus; proper seating arrangement
- Amusement venues such as arcades, amusement parks, karaoke, etc.
- Dances – how to make them fun for all

Outdoor Events

- Beach + access to the area
- Trail/hike
- Access to picnic decks/gazebos, boardwalks, piers, boats
- Equipment such as bicycles, hayride wagons, etc.
- Swimming pools should have a (lift) – some pools have zero-depth access as well.

Transportation

- Between venues if a large or multi-day business meeting
- Shuttles from parking areas
- Transportation around large spaces such as zoos, parks, etc.

NA Meeting places, in association with business meetings (ex. A “regular” NA meeting is suggested in conjunction with an RSC/ASC, etc.)

ALTERNATIVES

Support: Plan for assistance for those with Additional Needs; for example, helping a person who is blind to negotiate a buffet.

Provide alternate activities that **socially** include the addict with Additional Needs.

BMLT/YAP/Phone

