

...NA communities  
worldwide and  
NA World Services  
work together in a  
spirit of unity and  
cooperation to carry our  
message of recovery...

# Moving Forward with Conference Projects

The projects and decisions made at each World Service Conference set the course of NAWS work for the next two-year cycle. The following updates mark the progress we have made on the work coming out of WSC 2006.

## Basic Text Project

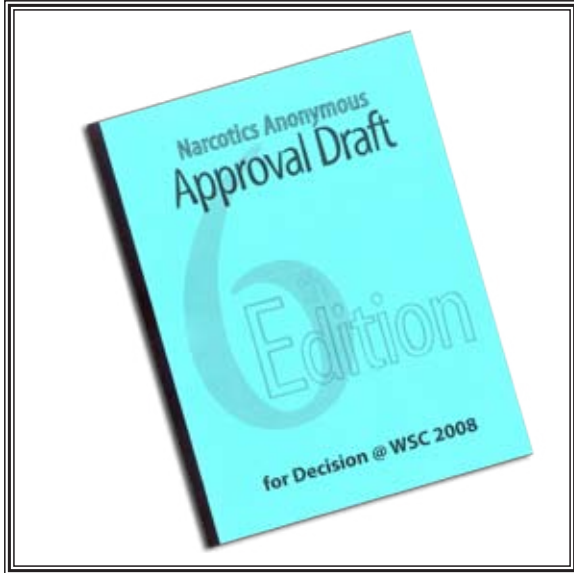
After several years of work, the Basic Text Project drew to a close shortly after this fiscal year ended. The project had been ongoing since the 2004 World Service Conference passed a motion to revise the Basic Text by replacing some or all of the personal stories, adding an introduction to the personal stories, and adding a new preface to the book.

At the time of the last annual report, the review draft had just been mailed out to the fellowship. During the six-month review period we mailed out 4,493 copies of the draft, and more than 3,000 copies were downloaded from our website.

We received approximately 350 pieces of input in return, sixty percent from individual members, seventeen percent from groups, and twenty-three percent from committees.

In our efforts to make it as easy as possible to give input on the draft, we posted a form online that members (or groups or committees) could use to submit input if they preferred that method over mailing us their thoughts. We tried to make the web interface as anonymous as possible, but of course, as with anything new, we learn as we go; and we realized after the forms went up that it would help to know where in the world the input was coming from. So we added a country/state check box later. Of the input for which we know locations, a little more than ten percent came from outside the US:

Brazil	Canada	Gibraltar	Greece
Ireland	Kuwait	New Zealand	Norway
Russia	Turkey	Uganda	UK



The majority of the input was positive, but there were plenty of ideas that helped make the draft better. As a result of the input, we added reflections (the shorter pieces of sharing) to the Beginnings section, noted the reflections in the table of contents, provided a brief explanation at the beginning of each set of reflections, moved some stories, revised many abstracts, and clarified language throughout the draft.

At the same time that we were reading through the input and revising the draft, we were continuing to scout for stories that filled the gaps in the draft. In what may have been the most difficult set of decisions throughout the whole project, we replaced ten of the stories from the review draft with ten of these “gap-filler” stories.

At the time this annual report was being put together, the approval draft had just been published. The draft contains pieces from members with such a wide range of clean time, experience, and demographics that it should speak to anyone who picks it up looking for identification or inspiration. The fifty-one stories in the draft come from members recovering in twenty countries:

Australia	Brazil	Canada
Colombia	India/Bahrain*	Iran
Ireland	Israel	Japan
Kenya	Mexico	Netherlands
New Zealand	Norway	Portugal
Russia	Saudi Arabia	US
US/Italy*		UK

\*got clean/now resides

With each passing year, we are able as a fellowship to more fully embody our vision: “that every addict in the world has a chance to experience the NA message in his or her own language and culture.” Milestones like the approval draft of the Sixth Edition Basic Text really bring that home.

The draft will be voted on at the 2008 World Service Conference, and if approved, will be published by October 2008.

## Targeted Literature

### Youth IPs Project

Fellowship issue discussions and public relations roundtables in recent years have demonstrated a rising demand for literature addressing the needs of specific populations of addicts. One element of our vision speaks to our goal “that every addict has an opportunity to experience our message in his or her own language and culture.” The call for targeted literature demonstrates that there are many subcultures that don’t readily identify with the mainstream population of the NA Fellowship. Just as existing literature has often served to carry our message when no member was present to do so, literature targeted to specific groups can convey the fact that there is room in our fellowship for every manifesta-



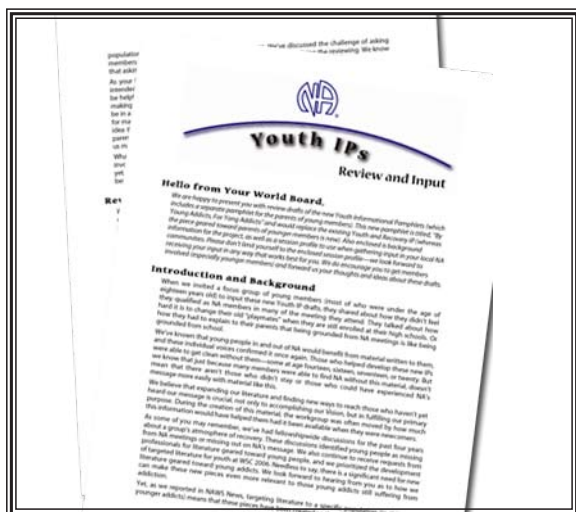
tion of the recovering person. Other addicts from their particular subculture may not be present in the meetings they attend, but targeted literature might help these addicts stay clean long enough to begin to identify with other addicts, “regardless of.”

At WSC 2006, conference participants overwhelmingly selected youth as a priority group for the targeted literature project plan. Shortly after the conference, workgroup members for this project were selected, including eight members who are between eighteen and thirty years old, with clean time ranging from eighteen months to ten years. Over the course of two meetings, the workgroup developed two draft pieces, “By Young Addicts, For Young Addicts” and “For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA.” The latter is an informational pamphlet aimed at informing the parents of young addicts about NA, while highlighting particularly relevant considerations for parents and guardians. The drafts were distributed for review and input by the fellowship-at-large between 1 March and 31 May 2006. The workgroup met shortly after the close of the fiscal year to consider the input. The pieces were revised according to the workgroup’s recommendations.

Revised drafts, pending board approval, will be distributed in approval draft form to the fellowship through the Conference Agenda Report, which will be published in November 2007, and then voted on at the 2008 WSC.

## Board-Approved Service Pamphlets

The 2006 World Service Conference passed a motion “to allow the World Board to develop and approve service-related information pamphlets and tools for distribution to the fellowship.” This motion put a great deal of trust in the World Board, and marks a step in a new direction for creating the tools our service bodies need to function well. One important benefit of this process is that it allows the World Board to take action much more quickly in response to the needs and concerns of the fellowship, including the fellowship’s input on these board-approved service materials. The board worked through this fiscal year to put together the first set of service pamphlets, which were released for distribution shortly after the end of the fiscal year. The following four service pamphlets remain available:



### NA Groups and Medication

In keeping with our Twelve Traditions, NA groups must have no opinion on members’ personal medical decisions. For this reason, group members and trusted servants sometimes find it difficult to handle situations involving members’ use of medication. This piece is meant to help groups find their role in such situations.





### ***Disruptive and Violent Behavior***

Similarly, groups may encounter times when the behavior of one or more people in a meeting challenges the atmosphere of recovery. The act of balancing the rights of an individual with the group's primary purpose can be difficult. This piece is meant to provide groups with considerations to help in their discussions and decisions.

### ***Group Business Meetings***

This piece contains a number of ideas to assist group trusted servants in their regular business meetings. The piece includes both a sample group business meeting format and a set of questions to consider during a group inventory.

### ***Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities***

The last of these five pieces concerns the typical service positions at the group level, drawing from and adding to information from *The Group Booklet* and IP #2, *The Group*. The

piece is meant to both provide a more current understanding and to convey the fact that each group is free to adapt these positions to their needs.

This new process for developing service pamphlets could prove to be a very positive step for the World Board in its efforts to support groups and committees as they work to carry the message. Based on input from the fellowship regarding one service pamphlet, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, the World Board decided to cease distribution of that piece. Some of the response to that piece showed us that we have not yet come up with a clear definition of what distinguishes service pamphlets from other literature. This will be discussed at the 2008 World Service Conference to guide the future of this track of literature development.

