

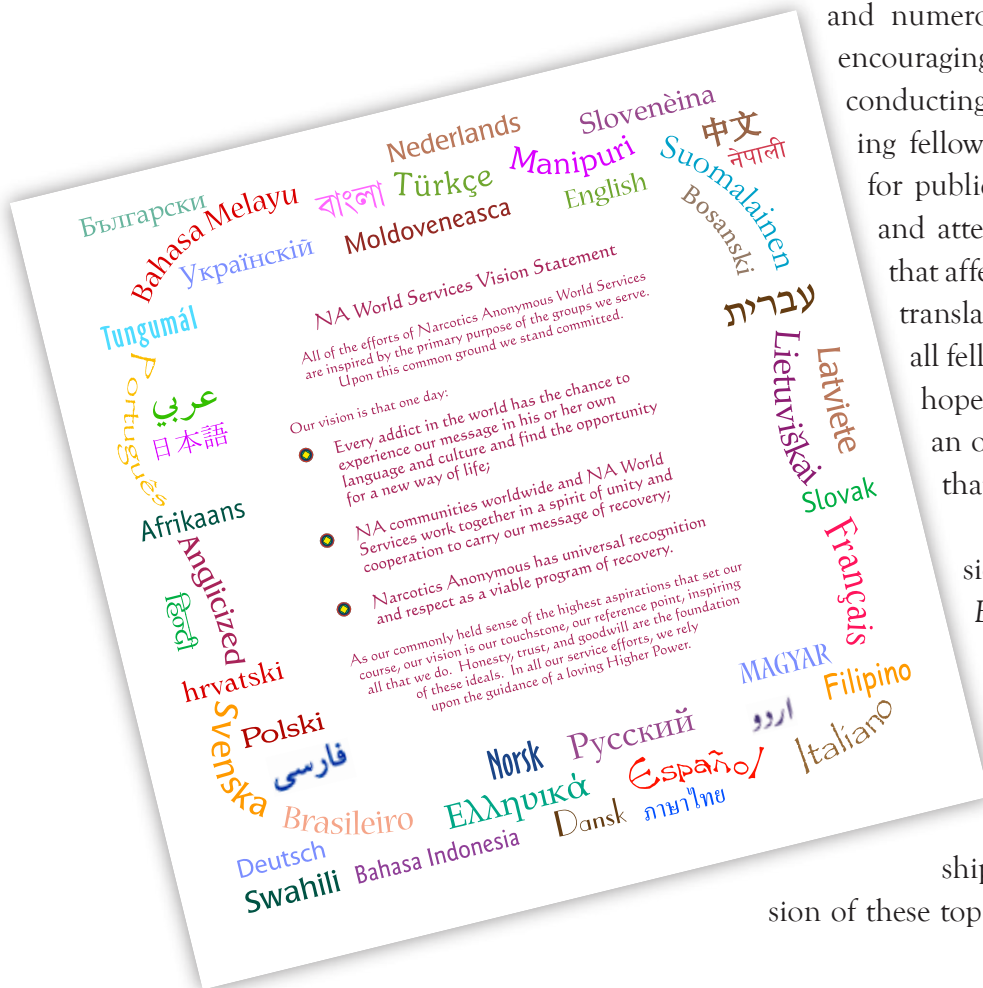
NA World Services

As it states in *A Guide to World Services in NA*, “The basic purposes of our world services are communication, coordination, information, and guidance. We provide these services so that our groups and members can more successfully carry the message of recovery and so that our program of recovery can be made more available to addicts everywhere. Although all parts of our service structure affect and are affected by NA as a whole, only at this level do we find service bodies designed to deal with problems that involve our entire fellowship.”

To accomplish this purpose, NAWS functions in many ways as two inter-related companies: one focused on literature production and distribution, the other on fellowship development. These areas of activity overlap in many places, and all that we do is driven by the NAWS Vision Statement. What we call fellowship development guides our activity at NAWS and is typically planned to serve many purposes. Developing recovery literature, service material,

and numerous publications; forwarding and encouraging specific Issue Discussion Topics; conducting and assisting others in conducting fellowship workshops; developing tools for public relations activities and targeting and attending specific professional events that affect the lives of addicts; and creating translations of all of the above—these are all fellowship development activities. We hope that this report provides you with an overview of some of these activities that we perform on your behalf.

We forwarded three Issue Discussion Topics in the previous cycle: *Building Strong Home Groups*, *Our Service System*, and *Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?* In addition to conducting the workshops listed in this report, we did a lot to encourage fellowshipwide understanding and discussion of these topics. We developed focus and ques-





tions for these topics and distributed them in *The NA Way Magazine* and *NAWS News*. We also evolved these discussions as the conference cycle went on. For *Building Strong Home Groups*, we created a worksheet that is available, in addition to the questions in *The Group Booklet*, to help home groups take inventory and improve their ability to carry our message. This is such an ongoing need in our fellowship that we will continue to look for ways to promote these discussions. These discussions also fed into the creation of four new service pamphlets and reflect the input we received worldwide: *Group Business Meetings*, *Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities*, *Disruptive and Violent Behavior*, and *NA Groups and Medication*.

The discussions on *Our Service System* led us to propose the Service System project adopted at WSC 2008. Our current service structure, created in the 1970s to serve a pri-

marily North American fellowship, no longer fits the needs and resources of our fellowship around the world. In our interactions with trusted servants in workshops around the world, we have had wonderful opportunities to hear not just about what hasn't been working in NA service, but also about some of the innovative new approaches members come up with every day to address the types of difficulties we all face. Spreading that energy and the ideas inspired by it will help our service system continue to grow to fit our current needs.

Finally, the discussions on *Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?* seemed to be a difficult subject for many of us. It is hard for us, members who have found a home in NA, to articulate why some do not find that same sense of hope, identification, and understanding. We held common needs workshops for the first time in decades at WCNA 32, with a specific focus on young people and our gay and lesbian members. This initiative was well received by those in attendance, and we plan to continue to hold these types of workshops at the world convention. We also hope that the new pamphlets adopted at WSC 2008, *By Young Addicts*, *For Young Addicts* and *For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA*, will help us to better reach out to those who sometimes find it difficult to find a home in NA. However, we also acknowledge that we as a fellowship have a lot to do to really reach our ideal of helping potential members understand that an addict, any addict, can stop using and find a new way to live and that NA can help.

All of this and more are a part of fellowship development, and one way we forward these discussions and collect global input and ideas that will affect the future work of NAWS is through fellowship workshops.

