

Our Freedom, Our Responsibility

NAWS Publications

One of NA World Services' responsibilities involves compiling, producing, and distributing the fellowship's periodicals: *The NA Way Magazine*, *Reaching Out*, *NAWS News*, and *Meeting by Mail*. The first two publications are made possible by the support of editorial workgroup members, and *NAWS News* by support of the World Board; *Meeting by Mail* is compiled by staff from submissions by "Loner Group" members. We are grateful for all of the efforts to ensure the ongoing quality of each of these publications.

We spent almost \$250,000 on providing these publications at no charge in this last year. We plan to examine all of our practices to see what ideas we can come up with to continue to accomplish the many purposes of these publications in more affordable ways. In addition to distribution expenses, we are constantly challenged by the number of members these publications do not reach due to language.

Fellowship Publications

The NA Way Magazine is printed in six languages: English, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish, and Farsi. This magazine features a variety of writing submitted by members from around the world and articles created by NAWS to engage the fellowship in dialogues about current issues facing NA as a whole. In the past fiscal year we received more than 130 member submissions including essay/article manuscripts, photos, poetry, and illustrations. These submissions came from a total of eighteen countries in over ten languages.

The NA Way Magazine actually saw a slight decrease in print subscriptions over the course of this fiscal year, while electronic subscriptions continue to be on the rise. Nearly 43,000 printed copies in English, Spanish, French, German, and Portuguese were mailed in July 2007 at no cost to the recipients. At the same time, we sold over 20,000 copies in Farsi through WSO Iran. By the time the April 2008 issue was mailed, the number had dropped to just





over 41,000. This is in part due to recent efforts to remove old addresses from our database to reduce the number of copies sent back marked “return to sender.” We also continue to encourage electronic subscriptions, which reduce printing costs and are more environmentally friendly. More than 8,200 people now receive their *NA Way* subscriptions electronically, up from last year’s 5,000. We need your help to increase this number. In order to keep up with ever-escalating translation and shipping costs, we need to increase the electronic distribution. We will be examining our practices in the upcoming cycle and welcome your ideas.

Reaching Out is one of our oldest publications, serving members who are incarcerated as well as those who are interested in Hospitals & Institutions service. Members in and out of prison are free to submit letters sharing experience, strength, and hope with one another. Free single-copy subscriptions are provided on a yearly basis to members who will be incarcerated for six months or more, and free multiple-copy subscriptions are provided to ASCs for distribution in conjunction with H&I efforts. Annual twenty-copy paid subscriptions are also available for members or service committees on the outside to distribute to inmates as they see fit. The number of copies run at each printing of *Reaching Out* is currently hovering around 11,000. We strongly encourage members on the outside to consider writing in to *Reaching Out* in support of those members who are recovering while incarcerated. We have plans to expand the focus of the workgroup for this publication to try to encourage more interaction from H&I committees throughout the fellowship.

The Narcotics Anonymous “Loner Group” periodical, *Meeting by Mail*, is mailed out six times a year. MBM gives NA members who are

unable to attend meetings in person the chance to share in the process of recovery with others. Nonloners and loners make use of this newsletter to share experience, strength, and hope with one another about recovery in general and about the challenges unique to recovering in isolation. Subscribers are also free to correspond with each other independently, as MBM prints mailing addresses of members who are interested in receiving mail from others. In this age of the Internet, we plan to examine the purpose of this publication to see if it can be absorbed by *The NA Way Magazine*.

Conference Publications

NAWS News provides a quarterly overview of world service activity following each meeting of your World Board. *NAWS News* is published in English, French, German, Portuguese, and Spanish. We have also had our first translations into Swedish and will be examining our ability to continue this. Print copies are distributed to regional service committees, conference participants, and registered area service committees. E-subscriptions to *NAWS News* are also available; as of this fiscal year, nearly 2,000 subscribers are notified by email each time a new issue is published to the web.

The *Conference Agenda Report* (CAR) is a tool for informing the NA Fellowship about the issues facing an upcoming conference, and is published and distributed in English a minimum of 150 days prior to each WSC, with translated versions released a minimum of 120 days prior to the WSC. Another report, the *Conference Report*, follows the CAR with comprehensive information about the status of conference projects and suggestions for new work. As each conference draws near, up-to-date information can be found at <http://www.na.org/conference/>.