

**Narcotics Anonymous:** a nonprofit Fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. This is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs. Our program is a set of principles written so simply, that anyone can follow them. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

**Spirituality:** Of the spirit or the soul, not bodily. The life principal of man bestowed by a power greater than man. The thinking, motivating, feeling part of man, often as distinguished from the body, mind, and intelligence. Life, will, consciousness, thought, etc., regarded as separate from matter.

**Anonymity:** The state of being with no name known or acknowledged; spoken or written by a person whose name is withheld. It is the Spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

**Basic Text:** This is the book which contains all of the information that we need to know about the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. Another book: *"It Works How and Why?"* is a supplemental work that expands on what is contained in the **Basic Text**.

**The Steps:** The 12 principles that made our recovery possible. If you want what we have to offer and are willing to make the effort to get it, then you are ready to take certain steps. There are twelve! (Refer to Basic Text)

**The Traditions:** The 12 principles that must be followed so that we can ensure freedom for the groups. As long as the ties that bind us together are stronger than those that would tear us apart, All Will Be Well. (Refer to Basic Text)

**The Concepts:** The 12 principles which are the guide to our service structure. (Refer to NA literature booklet: *"The 12 Concepts"*)

**The Group:** A Narcotics Anonymous Group is comprised of an autonomous/self-governing group of addict members who meet regularly to conduct their own affairs in whatever way it suits its members, providing the group does not adversely affect other groups, or the entire NA Fellowship. Groups must be self supporting through their own contributions, (7<sup>th</sup> Tradition). A group qualifies as functioning when two or more addicts meet. (Refer to *"The Group Booklet"* or *"Guide To Local Services"*, a.k.a. GTLS, and Information Pamphlet #2, *"The Group"*).

**Meetings:** Where addicts seeking recovery gather to sustain the fellowship, and convey the essence of the fellowship, and all that it encompasses: Exercising our Primary Purpose which is to carry the message of recovery to the newcomer, as well as the still sick and suffering addict seeking recovery.

**Locating Meetings:** Meeting information can be found in a variety of ways: Groups will have meeting lists available; a telephone hot line is available in most areas; on-line websites also link to this information. Our Area Website is [www.gssana.org](http://www.gssana.org) which is linked to other areas and NA World Services site. ([www.na.org](http://www.na.org))

**Phone Line or Hotline:** Most areas have a listed toll free telephone number which contains meeting information and other NA related information. Our area phone line or hot line number is: 1.800.503.9456.

**Home Group:** In some NA communities, it has become customary for members to make a personal commitment to regularly support one particular group, and it is referred to by their "Home Group". It is a core of regular committed members call Home, and is the part of the group that helps ensure recovery is available for others,

and it also gives members a place in which to participate in NA's decision making process. To become a home group member all that is needed is a desire to stop using, and we typically inform the group of our wish to join, usually the group will ask for your contact information and clean date if you wish to offer it for future clean time anniversary celebrations, and notification of incidentals that come up concerning group meetings, etc. (Refer to Information Pamphlet IP #2; *"The Group"* and *"Guide To local Services"*)

**Closed Meetings:** These are only for addicts who think they may have a drug problem. Closed meetings provide an atmosphere that all in attendance will be better able to identify with them. Newcomers may feel more comfortable at these. The Chairperson usually reads a statement why the meeting is closed, and offers to direct non-addicts who may be in attendance to an Open Meeting. (Refer to Information Pamphlet IP#2: *"The Group"* and *"Guide To Local Services"*)

**Open Meetings:** Open Meetings are just that, open to anyone who wants to attend. Some groups offer open meeting one a month so that friend and relatives of members can attend and celebrate recovery anniversaries with them.

**Clean Time:** Most NA members refer to this as the period of time which has elapsed since we stopped using substances and this is usually marked by milestones of instants, minutes, hours, days, months and years.

**Where can we hold NA meetings?:** Just about anywhere, especially in public places, where room rental costs are moderate and accessible to addicts with physical limitations. Our Seventh Tradition states we must be fully self-supporting by paying rent, buying literature, and other services.

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**Meeting Format:** We use a variety of formats with length of meeting and type of meeting such as Speaker, Discussion, Topic, Newcomer, Step Study, Tradition Study, Question & Answer, etc.

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** “We are self supporting through our own contributions” and solicit monetary contributions from meeting attendees, usually by passing a basket. This money goes toward paying rent, supplies, literature, contributions to our Area Service Committees, and as well as for other purposes as necessary to continue to carry out our Narcotics Anonymous Primary Purpose. See Information Pamphlet (IP# 24: “*Hey, What’s the Basket For*”)

**Literature:** Only NA-approved literature is appropriate for reading in NA meetings. We are a very literature oriented fellowship and have an abundance available.

**Business Meeting:** The purpose of the group business meeting is fairly self explanatory: to conduct the business of the group in such a way that the group remains effective in carrying the recovery message.

**Group Officers:** Members which are elected to positions by the groups usually at business meetings. The Secretary arranges affairs of group, takes notes at business meetings, and makes sure the group is registered with Area Service Committee and World Service Office. The Treasurer is responsible for handling the group funds, counting money and keeping accurate records of all money transactions. The Group Service Representative/GSR is responsible to bring the group conscience such as group vote results to the Area Service Committee/ASC and purchases literature usually at ASC. The Alternate GSR also attends ASC with GSR and participates in ASC in place of a GSR who is unable to attend the ASC meeting.

**NAWS:** Narcotics Anonymous World Services. World Services deals with the needs of NA as a whole and offers services to its members, its groups (Regions included), and to society. Its basic purposes are communication, coordination, information, and guidance. NAWS provides 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. As with all groups, NAWS is us, addicts in recovery, who represent our group conscience.

**REGION:** Regional Service Committees are comprised of Regional Committee Members/RCM’s which are elected to represent areas at their Regional Service Committee meetings. Regions are formed to pool and develop local service resources that can be used by groups and areas in better fulfilling their responsibilities. Usually the RCM is comprised of a group of Areas, an intermediary to NAWS. This committee meets at least once a year at a regional assembly and brings these group representatives together to address issues affecting the fellowship worldwide, (NAWS).

**Area Service Committee/ASC:** “Workhorse” of the service structure which delivers NA services to the groups and the community. ASC is comprised of Administrative Officers, subcommittees, interested members of NA, and most importantly the gathering all the groups who belong to an ASC, mostly through their GSR’s to carry out the decisions made by the collective groups’ conscience.

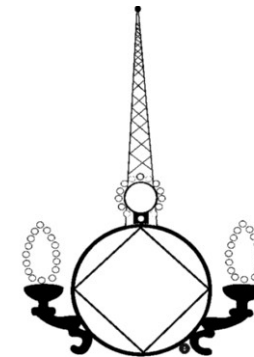
**Subcommittees:** H&I/Hospitals and Institutions, A&E/Activities and Events, PR/Public Relations, Literature, Policy, Ad Hoc, and others. ASC, (Area), creates subcommittees to do the actual work involved in delivering its services in carrying out our Primary Purpose.



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Not to be considered Approved NA Literature  
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# WHAT IS IT?

## NARCOTIC ANONYMOUS GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS



**GSSANA**  
“Serenity in the Electric City”

**GREATER SCRANTON STEAMTOWN  
AREA OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

**WWW.GSSANA.ORG**  
**800.503.9456**  
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