

Being An Effective GSR

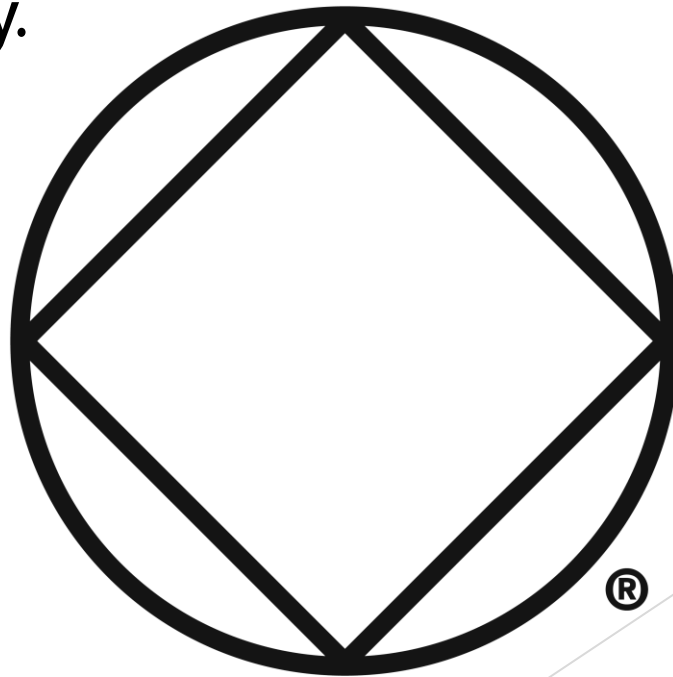
BAY AREA

GSR ORIENTATION

As developed by

RECOVERY COAST AREA

This document and presentation is in no way meant to replace the service literature that is currently available to our fellowship. It is our hope that it will inspire further research and discussion by all of those in attendance today.



Why are we here?

Gain information on GSR...

- ▶ Responsibilities
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Tools
- ▶ Benefits of Service

What is a GSR?

The Group Service Representative is the go-between for each Narcotics Anonymous Group and the various levels of our service structure.

- **While GSRs are elected by and accountable to the group, they are not mere group messengers.**
- **They are selected by their groups to serve as active members of the area service committee.**
- **GSRs provide constant, active information on discussions being carried on within our service structure.**
- **GSRs carry the voice of their home group.**

Responsibilities

Participate in:

- ❖ Area service committee meetings. (ASC)
- ❖ Attend forums and assemblies at both the area and regional levels;
 - ❖ GSR Assembly (Region)
 - ❖ GSR Workshop (Area)
 - ❖ Learning days for other subcommittees (Area)
 - ❖ Other Area or Regional events that could benefit you fulfilling your position as GSR.
- ❖ Join in the work of an ASC subcommittee.
- ❖ Home group business meeting.

“As such, they are responsible to act in the best interests of NA as a whole, not solely as advocates of their own groups’ priorities.”

Guide to Local Service pg. 35

Responsibilities

Communication:

Be the voice of their homegroup, You do not carry your own personal opinion.

- ❖ Communication is a 2 way street. It is taking information from area to home group and from home group to area.

“Provide information to the group about developments in the worldwide NA fellowship and to share with the area any activities, strengths or problems of the group.”

IP#2 The Group

Responsibilities

Communication (cnt.):

Reporting to the Group

- Activities – Previous & Upcoming
 - H&I – Current
 - Literature – Purchase, Area Lit Decisions
 - PR – Current and Projected Plans
 - Web – Address & Info (birthdays, etc.)
 - Current and Proposed / Motions Happenings
 - Policy issues...
- Subcommittee and Area Service Position Openings
 - Issues at Area and Region

The GSR is the formal line of communication whose purpose it is to represent the groups conscience in matters affecting other groups or opinion.

Policy:

- ▶ **Purpose of Policy Subcommittee:** to consider any input that affects the policies of the ASC and upon deliberation, provide clarity to the area.
 - ▶ Asking questions about current policy.
 - ▶ Submitting motions
 - ▶ Discussing any motions brought to the floor.
- ▶ **Decorum statement:** These rules and guidelines are meant to be used as tools to help us make orderly, collective decisions in a cooperative respectful way, in the spirit of the 12 concepts. Please do not use them as weapons against one another. We encourage all participants to become familiar with these rules of order and conduct themselves accordingly.
- ▶ **Robert Rules Of Order**
 - ▶ Policy Subcommittee is a great way to ask questions and learn together Roberts Rules of Order.

Things to Remember...

- **Atmosphere of Recovery**
- **Support**
- **Experience**
- **Commitment-Home Group Members**
- **Ask questions ??**

Tools

- ▶ **Area Policy- read it front to back, thank us later!**
- ▶ **Guide to Local Service (GLS)**
- ▶ **12 Traditions**
- ▶ **12 Concepts**
- ▶ **The Group Booklet**
- ▶ **IP #2 The Group**
- ▶ **Understanding business guides**
 - ▶ **Robert Rules of Order**
 - ▶ **Parliamentary Rules**
 - ▶ **There are several books written about Roberts Rules of Order that can be useful.**

Traditions That Support Area Service

- ❖ #1- To maintain unity - As a service committee we are committed to communicate between the group down to world services the needs of the addict.
- ❖ #2 – Group conscience of a group chooses effective leaders as trusted servants.
- ❖ #5 – Service Committees free the group to carry the message to the individual addict.
- ❖ #9 – Service boards and/or committees are formed to perform duties for groups & NA as a whole.
- ❖ #10 - Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
- ❖ #11 – Anonymity is maintained for individuals in the groups by giving service committees the authority to perform services and duties that they cannot perform for as individuals.

Benefits of Service

- ❖ Fun
- ❖ Building Relationships
- ❖ Commitment
- ❖ Selflessness
- ❖ Practicing Spiritual Principles
- ❖ Patience
- ❖ Unconditional Love
- ❖ Give back to the fellowship

Questions???