

March 30, 2022

**Serenity In The Mountains
Area of Narcotics Anonymous
HOSPITALS AND
INSTITUTIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE POLICY**

I. DEFINITION AND PURPOSE OF THE H&I SUBCOMMITTEE

The SITMANA Area H&I Subcommittee is a volunteer group of members of Narcotics Anonymous, which exists for the purpose of carrying the NA recovery message to addicts in hospitals, recovery houses, prisons, and related facilities. To be helpful to the residents, we are governed by the individual rules of the facility and further impose certain standards on ourselves. This committee is a subcommittee of the SITMANA ASC. We shall maintain effective liaison and complete accountability to that committee.

II. FUNCTIONS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

1. Communication and disbursement of all information to and from all panels through their panel leader.
2. The distribution of Narcotics Anonymous literature to panel leaders.
3. To conduct a monthly business meeting.
4. To provide an H&I service representative for participation in the regional H&I subcommittee.
5. To coordinate the development of any new H&I meetings/presentations.
6. The election of Panel Leaders to communicate with the facilities and panel members to conduct the H&I meetings/presentations.

III. ELECTED OFFICERS

The H&I subcommittee's officers shall consist of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, literature coordinator, and secretary. All officers are to be elected by a majority vote of the subcommittee at large, except for the chairperson, who is elected by the area service committee.

Eligible voters on the H&I subcommittee include: Officers (except chairperson, who only votes in the case of a tie), panel leaders, and panel members who have been in attendance at two consecutive subcommittee meetings.

All officers are elected for a term of one year and will be eligible for reelection for a second term of one year, followed by **two** years of ineligibility.

Any subcommittee officer, except for the chairperson, may be removed from office by a majority vote of the H&I subcommittee.

In the case of resignation, the vice-chairperson shall automatically assume the

position of chairperson until the ASC is able to elect a new chairperson. The vice-chairperson may decline; however, in which case the area vice-chairperson will assume the duties of chairperson until the area is able to elect a new chairperson. In the event of resignation by the secretary or literature coordinator, the position shall be held open for a period of one month or until a willing member from the fellowship is found to serve in the position.

IV. QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. Chairperson

1. Prepares the monthly subcommittee agenda; brings before the general meeting of the subcommittee matters they should act upon.
2. Carries out policies and orders for the subcommittee.
3. Appoints special subcommittee members when required.
4. Represents the H&I subcommittee at the area level.
5. Attends the regional H&I subcommittee meetings or designates a proxy.
6. Keeps order in the subcommittee meeting.
7. Keeps discussion on the topic at hand.
8. Teaches the vice-chair the responsibilities of the position.
9. If the chairperson misses two consecutive H&I meetings or ASC without due cause, the committee will seek direction from ASC in finding a chairperson.
10. Coordinates Panel Leaders

B. Vice-Chairperson

1. The vice-chairperson assumes the responsibilities of the chairperson in the event of his/her absence.
2. Coordinates new panels until a panel coordinator is assigned.
3. Helps the chair maintain order.
4. Attends institutional presentations on a monthly basis, or as directed by the chair.
5. Attends meetings with institution leaders and chair of the H&I committee.
 6. If the vice-chairperson misses two consecutive H&I meetings without good cause, the committee may seek a new vice chair.
 7. Coordinates Panel Leaders

C. Secretary

1. Takes minutes of all subcommittee meetings.
2. Keeps records of all subcommittee members, including addresses and telephone numbers.
3. Maintains a current list of speakers, phone lines, and panel members.
4. If the secretary misses two consecutive H&I committee meetings without due cause, the committee may seek a new secretary.

D. Panel Leader

Requires at least six (6) months continuous clean time, unless otherwise required by the facility, be oriented by an active panel leader, and have a willingness to be of service. Elected by the H&I subcommittee at one of its regular meetings, after being cleared by the facility when necessary. 1 month commitment. May serve up to three consecutive terms before one term of ineligibility from same commitment.

1. New Panel Leaders must attend (2) sit-in's with active Panel Leader.
2. Panel Leaders that have not been active for three years must be reorientated
3. Reminds Should be familiar with the subcommittee and facility rules.
4. the panel members of both facility rules and subcommittee Do's and Don't's.
5. Attends the regular H&I subcommittee meetings
6. Make sure the supplies are available (literature, etc.) and that the meeting/presentation goes as it is scheduled.
7. Any problems with staff or facility will be brought back for the subcommittee to resolve.
8. Maintains a current list of panel leaders, and a list of institutional presentations and Responsible for orientation for new and returning Panel Leaders.
9. Maintains a current list of panel members, and a list of institutional presentations.
10. Keeps an open line of communication with the facility.
11. Calls upon the officers and general subcommittee membership for any necessary assistance
12. Shall meet with the administrations of facilities in the interests of harmony.
13. Shall make sure that the panels are filled for scheduled meetings for which he/she is the coordinator.
14. If the panel leader misses two consecutive H&I committee meetings without due cause, and does not forward a report, the committee may seek a new panel leader.

F1. Speaking Panel Members

Requires at least 3 months continuous clean time unless otherwise required by the facility. Must be a member of NA with a Narcotics Anonymous homegroup and/or Narcotics Anonymous sponsor. It is suggested that the panel leader should make these panel members aware of all their responsibilities during the orientation stage.

F2. Observing (non-speaking) Panel Members- Shadowing

Requires 30 days of continuous clean time unless otherwise specified from the facility. Must be a member of NA with a Narcotics Anonymous homegroup and/or Narcotics Anonymous sponsor. It is suggested that the panel leader should make these panel members aware of all their responsibilities during the orientation stage.

G. Literature Coordinator

1. Shall fill literature orders for each facility.
2. Shall keep a continuing record of literature distributed to panel leaders.
3. Shall make a report at the regular H&I subcommittee meetings on literature distributed.
4. Shall work with the chairperson to ensure that necessary literature is obtained from the ASC as per the H&I subcommittee budget.
5. Shall stamp all literature with the NA Helpline number.
6. If the literature coordinator misses two consecutive H&I committee meetings without due cause, and does not forward a report, the committee may seek a new literature coordinator.

V. VOTING PROCEDURES-PRIVILEGE OF VOTE

1. To vote, you must be a H&I subcommittee member and have attended the last two (2) consecutive H&I subcommittee meetings.
2. If you are a H& I subcommittee member, and miss two (2) consecutive H&I subcommittee meetings, you lose your voting privileges until you attend 2 consecutive H&I subcommittee meetings

VI. PROCEDURES IN VOTING

1. A motion can only be made by a H&I I subcommittee member who has attended (2) consecutive H&I subcommittee meetings with the exception of the H&I chairperson.
2. All motions must be seconded by a H&I Subcommittee voting member present at the meeting, opened for questions/comments and then voted on.
3. All motions must be approved by the majority of H&I subcommittee voting members present.
4. Only the motion maker can amend his/her motion
5. It is the chairperson's responsibility to announce the motion before the vote and to announce the outcome after the vote.
6. All motions permanently affecting H&I policy must be submitted in writing.
7. Voting members present may table a motion with a majority vote.
8. It is the chairperson's responsibility to break a tie vote. The chair cannot abstain.
9. The motion maker may withdraw his/her motion at any time preceding the vote.
11. If a motion is voted down, it cannot be brought back to the floor for ninety (90) days.

VII. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. All members must abide by the rules and regulations of the H&I subcommittee in all facilities that it serves. Any violation will be reviewed by the subcommittee and members may be relieved of any H&I assignment.
2. No meeting in this area calling itself a Narcotics Anonymous H&I presentation shall have a direct affiliation with any institution, except under the direct supervision of this committee in cooperation with the ASC.
3. No H&I member will involve themselves with any other activity at the institution that this committee serves which may result in conflict or damage to A) the patient/inmate inside the institution, or B) the working ability and privilege of this committee to carry the message inside the institution. For these reasons, no H&I member will not interfere with or use influence in any institution, court, hospital, nor with any judge, doctor, probation officer or parole officer, nor will he or she make any comments or promises regarding employment, parole, probation, or medical problems. We carry only the message of Narcotics Anonymous recovery through spiritual principles.
4. Length of clean time required by each institution is to be rigidly upheld by all H&I members. When in conflict with H&I clean time requirements, the stricter rule applies.
5. It is suggested that all H&I members have a working knowledge of the Narcotics Anonymous 12 steps and 12 traditions through application in the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.
6. Finally, since the purpose of the H&I committee is to share their experience, strength, and hope through the N.A. message, all H&I panel members are encouraged to try to get the patients/inmates involved with the presentation through reading, identifying, sharing, etc.

VIII. DO'S AND DON'TS FOR H&I

DO'S

1. Do make meeting lists available to residents
2. Do try to get all agreements with the facility in writing.
3. Do clarify the facility's rules with anyone you bring in and follow them.
4. Do start and end on time
5. Do briefly explain what H&I is
6. Do make it clear that NA is separate and distinct from the facility as well as other fellowships.
7. Do try and get residents involved, especially those in long-term facilities
8. Do obey all dress codes; exercise common sense and respect for the facility in what you wear.
9. Do keep staff aware of your whereabouts at all times.
10. Do explain the language that we use ("addict", "clean", "recovery") and why we use it (the 1st Step of NA and the 6th Tradition of NA)
11. Do emphasize that in NA, recovery is available to any addict regardless of "type" of drug(s) used
12. Do emphasize the importance of getting to a NA meeting the first day out.
13. Do ensure all literature you bring into the institution has the local **helpline** phone number/ website stamped or clearly written on it
14. Do use the literature recommended for H&I work
15. Do screen all panel members carefully, especially regarding the clean time requirements or other requirements. People who sit on H&I panels should be able to share a message of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous

DON'TS

1. Don't break another person's anonymity or tell his/her story.
2. Don't discuss any issues involving the institution's rules/regulations, nor the methods they use for treatment. Not all facilities are Twelve Step based nor do their understanding of the steps necessarily coincide with the understanding gained in NA. We share our experience without reference to the facility's methods or resident comments about the facility's methods.
3. Don't discuss conditions within the facility, the guilt or innocence of an inmate, or express opinions about the staff. We have no opinion on outside issues while representing NA
4. Don't debate the merits of the treatment center's program or other fellowships. The best approach is to focus on the positive and unique qualities of our program Keep your Basic Text handy and read from it. It is the foundation of our program of recovery.
5. Don't debate which drugs are acceptable. NA is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs.
6. Don't, while sharing, put too much focus on what it was like. They already know.
7. Don't carry excessive cash or wear expensive or flashy jewelry.
8. Don't show favoritism to any resident/inmate.
9. Don't take messages into or out of the facility
10. Don't give out any other person's address or phone number without permission.
11. Don't carry in any contraband items, such as cigarettes (if applicable) or weapons.
12. Don't rely on flooding a treatment center with literature to carry our message. The most powerful tool for carrying our message is the NA member.
13. Don't read too many literature selections at the beginning of the meeting. Keep it short and simple to keep their attention.
14. Don't let the meeting run too long. Most treatment center residents spend much of their day in meetings of one sort or another, often in the same room.

15. Don't give or accept any gifts, don't collect any money.

REMEMBER AT ALL TIMES THAT YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE INSTITUTION, TO THE INMATE/PATIENT/RESIDENT, AND TO N.A.

IF YOU OBSERVE THE ABOVE SUGGESTIONS AND FOLLOW THE 12 TRADITIONS, YOU WILL UPHOLD YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ALL THREE.

MISSION STATEMENT

THAT NO ADDICT SEEKING RECOVERY NEED EVER DIE WITHOUT HAVING HAD A CHANCE TO FIND A NEW WAY TO LIVE.

MAY WE, AS A SUBCOMMITTEE, ALWAYS DO OUR BEST TO ADEQUATELY PROVIDE THAT CHANCE FOR ALL ADDICTS WE ENCOUNTER, WHETHER IT BE IN A FACILITY OR ELSEWHERE.

WE HAVE A FIRM TESTIMONY THAT THE THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF ONE ADDICT HELPING ANOTHER IS WITHOUT PARALLEL.

WE WISH TO FURTHER OUR TESTIMONY BY SERVING OUR HIGHER POWER AND MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR LOCAL AREA AS DIRECTED BY OUR GROUP CONSCIENCE.

