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Literary Work in progress.
Please copy & share this with your
local home group for Review and
Input.

Developed and Distributed by the
Groups in A.S.I.S. for NA,
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Geographically Isolated Addicts



**Literary Work in Progress
Input & Review Material Only**

NEEDS MORE INPUT

Geographically Isolated Addicts:

Some of us find ourselves Isolated from the Fellowship around us, or there may not be NA around us at all. Sometimes we find ourselves in a place where not all Groups believe in Total Abstinence and our Twelve Traditions. We feel like a minority, and not a part of the Fellowship in our city or town. Unity is a must in Narcotics Anonymous. That's not to say there may be controversies that arise when some don't believe in the same message as we do. Let's face it, the Fellowship around us may have changed. Many Groups and Areas do not believe in Total Abstinence or the Twelve Traditions.

So how can we stay connected with addicts like ourselves? Many of us have started Groups, we keep the doors open to carry a clear message of Recovery to the addicts who still suffer. This is what we call: Unity of Action. We can connect with other Groups and Addicts at the Fellowship Service Conference. We can use the phone to communicate with Addicts, and the internet. RadiofreeNA is a great tool most of us use to communicate. We no longer need to stay in isolation. We are alive & free today.

With modern day technology it is possible to reach addicts across the world who are likeminded. Facebook and Skype are ways to ask for help when starting a group. Sometimes we can't go to a meeting due to physical issues. When that is the case Skype Meetings can be a good alternative. This does not mean a license

to replace physical meetings with online ones. When possible come to a real meeting so we can hug you.

Being connected to other addicts is a big part of the WE of the program. It is a dangerous area to be in when we feel apart from rather than a part of due to us having values that honor our program by respecting it's roots. Being vigilant in maintaining daily contact with recovering addicts that support us is vital for our continued growth. If we don't follow through with phone calls, Step writing, and basically reminding ourselves we are responsible for our recovery the disease can creep into our lives and once again take over. There are no excuses to not use the tools provided to keep us connected to those who can help us today.

Following through on commitments to a meeting have helped many addicts start a Home Group. When asked what helped get things going commitment is truly necessary. Keeping the doors open when we may be by ourselves at the meeting is part of that commitment. Doing public information to make sure addicts know how to find the meeting is crucial for a Groups survival.

Starting A Meeting:

So how do we start a meeting? We simply start by looking for a facility that is local and reach out to see if we can meet there. We set up a time and date to meet with the facility, whether it's a church, a library, or any place that has a meeting room we can rent. Sometimes the facility is unaware of

what Narcotics Anonymous is; this gives us the chance to inform them about our program, our steps, and our Traditions.

One addict shares "One time a church wanted us to do outreach for their facility, and ride on our name to get more people involved with their mission." We need to be reminded of our Sixth Tradition when time's like this arises. "An N.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the N.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

Once we find a facility that's willing to allow us to meet, we establish how much rent we can pay, which day of the week & time we want to meet. Once we establish that we can start getting to work, getting the information out to other addicts and letting them know where and when we meet. Now all we need is a Basic Text. Once the meeting starts to meet and addicts show up, we help others get involved. We form a Group. Another thing we can do is Register the Group with A.S.I.S. and plan to be at the Fellowship Service Conference. At the Fellowship Service Conference we are together with like minded addicts. Addicts like ourselves that believe in Group Autonomy, our Twelve Traditions, and Total Abstinence. We become connected with others and are now free from isolation, if we choose to be.