



World Services

year in review

1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

A Note from Your World Board

As the Fifth Tradition essay of *Guiding Principles* reminds us, “Everything we do, everything that matters to us as a Fellowship, comes back to our simple message of hope and freedom.” Our primary purpose is the engine that propels members to serve Narcotics Anonymous at every level. It keeps our efforts focused on carrying the message to the addict who still suffers. NA groups are the primary vehicle for carrying that message. That’s why we’ve built our entire service structure around the goal of supporting the ability of NA groups to focus on this task. This brief summary of our *Annual Report*—available in full at www.na.org/AR2017—describes some of these efforts. Taken together, they represent the practice of gratitude in action.

Today, almost 67,000 meetings open their doors each week in 139 countries on every continent except Antarctica. Still, meetings remain sparse in many parts of the world, and underserved segments remain within and adjacent to established NA communities. We recognize that we still have a lot to learn and plenty of growing to do!

NA World Services has become more skilled at using strategic planning in order to improve our service delivery. We continue to improve our ability to gather data, assess challenges, and plan solutions. The projects, workgroups, literature surveys, and Issue Discussion Topics described in the full report all spring from the Board’s planning process, and gained Fellowship endorsement at the 2016 World Service Conference.

As a board, we’ve been entrusted by the Fellowship with the sacred responsibility of providing oversight to NAWS, Inc. ensuring that both spiritual principles and corporate best practices are applied in all of NAWS’ activities. We’ve dedicated half of the NAWS 2017 *Annual Report* to financial reports. Our goal is to provide enough detail to offer transparency, while communicating effectively with a broad audience. ①



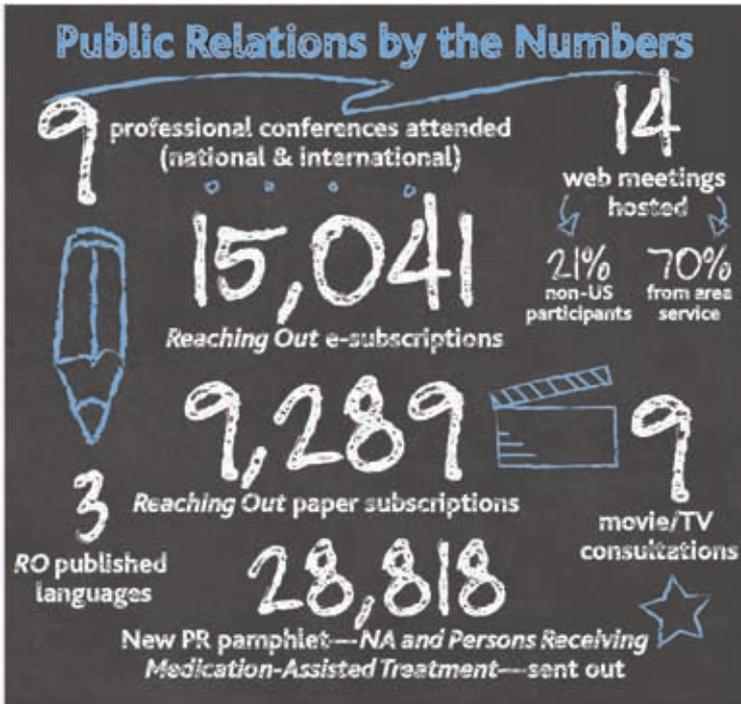
Translating the NA Message

NA is a worldwide fellowship whose primary purpose transcends national boundaries, cultural barriers, and linguistic differences. Once the NA message bridges those obstacles and takes root in a particular place, local members have to figure out how to communicate that message in their own language. That's where the literature translations process comes into play—a collaborative effort between NA World Services (NAWS) and local translation committees (LTCs) that makes NA literature available in local languages and ensures conceptual fidelity of the NA message.

The LTC is key to successful translation of our message. LTCs need members...

- with some time in recovery
- who are familiar with NA's Steps, Traditions, Concepts, principles, and "NA language," and
- who are proficient in their local language.

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NAWS staff provides information and support, especially in considering cultural concerns and challenges that may affect conceptual fidelity. The decisions to use a more culturally relevant expression or a literal translation are made on a case-by-case basis.

The first step is creating a “recovery glossary,” which

- contains key NA words, phrases, and principles in the target language
- is used as a foundation for all future translations in that particular language
- ensures that future translation work accurately reflects the NA message.



Computer-generated or “machine” translations may serve as easily accessible tools for quick, informal communication, but even the best technology doesn’t adequately capture the soul and spirit of language, especially NA’s unique terminology. This is a human process that is best guided by the efforts of the NA members in an LTC.

Despite the challenges of keeping up with the volume of translations to be typeset, proofed, signed off on, and sent for publication in this fiscal year, we added 57 pieces of newly-translated literature in 27 languages. For more info go to www.na.org/AR2017. ③

Fellowship Support

Fellowship support continues to be a priority, especially where NA remains relatively new, may just be gaining a foothold, or where—for a variety of reasons—NA communities might benefit from NAWS support. This work offers numerous examples of collaboration and reminds us that we carry the message much more effectively when we work together.

NAWS is currently engaged in similar work—characterized by long-term commitments and slow but steady growth—in India, Southeast Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. To be sure, visiting emerging NA communities to provide Fellowship support requires considerable resources. We believe these investments of our human and financial resources reflect our values.

For example, a trip to Oman provided support for the Arabic Language Translation Committee and the fourth NA Middle East Convention. It also offered the opportunity to engage with a gathering of women scheduled to coincide with these events. Additionally, one World Board member spoke at an outside meeting



NA Middle East Convention 4

attended by about 700 people, and participated in a PR presentation that included a top government official and a physician.

The Afri-can Zonal Forum (AZF) met for the fourth time in 2016, with 13 communities participating, the week after the South African regional convention. This allowed us to bring delegates in early for the zonal meeting to attend the convention. Providing exposure to diversity and lengths of recovery that does not exist (yet!) in most of these communities allowed members to connect and form bonds within the zone, so they can support one another in their development. In this fiscal year, we also provided funding for members from Tanzania to attend a learning day in Kenya to help them with issues like service structure and general understanding of NA principles.

Fellowship Discussions and Projects

There were several projects that solicited input during fiscal year 2017, and were affirmed as project plans at the 2018 World Service Conference. You can find more information and ways to be involved at www.na.org/projects.

- Daily Meditation Book Project
- Mental Health/Mental Illness IP Project
- WSC of the Future Project



The *Annual Report* in full (www.na.org/AR2017) reports on the Issue Discussion Topics that were workshopped this fiscal year. But new IDTs, with session profiles, handouts, and PowerPoints, will be posted at www.na.org/IDT so you can hold your own discussions in your home groups, service bodies, or in area/regional workshops and learning days.

Web meetings for ongoing discussions and projects are also a great way to be involved.

Web Meetings for Projects

- Conventions and Events
Tools Project
- Local Service Toolbox Project

Ongoing Web Meetings

- Rural Service
- Public Relations
- Inmate Step Writing
- H&I



\$1,189,265
Fellowship Contributions

13%
of total

\$7,947,430
Net Literature Income

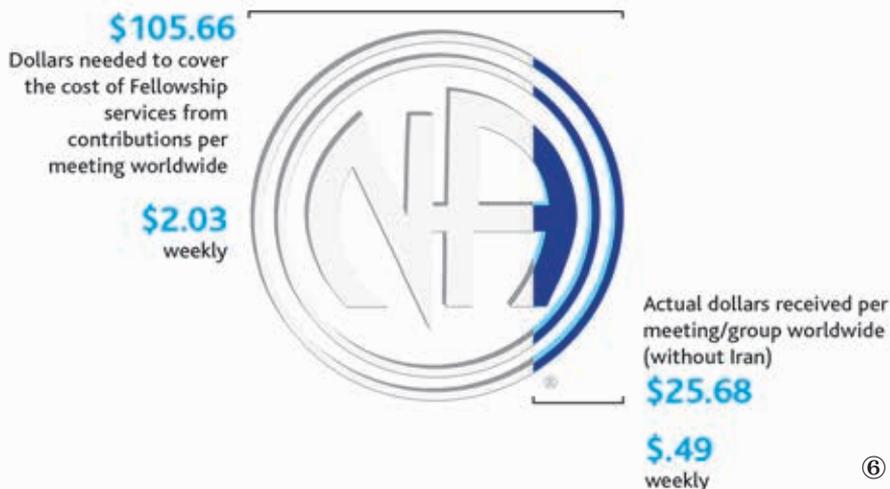
87%
of total

Note: All numbers exclude Iran due to legal requirements that assets remain in the country.

Contributions from NA members, groups, and service committees to NA World Services have exceeded one million US dollars per year for the last three years in a row. We are very grateful for your contributions and for our shared commitment to Tradition Seven and A Vision for NA Service. Thank you!

In the graph to the right, you'll find Fellowship contributions in four different categories—individuals, groups, areas, regions, and zonal forums/events—over the last six years. Although there are small shifts from year to year, the trend in each category of contributors is up. Altogether, Fellowship contributions rose 17% in FY 2017 over the previous fiscal year, and now make up 13% of the total NAWS operating income.

Worldwide Fellowship Support Cost per Meeting per Year

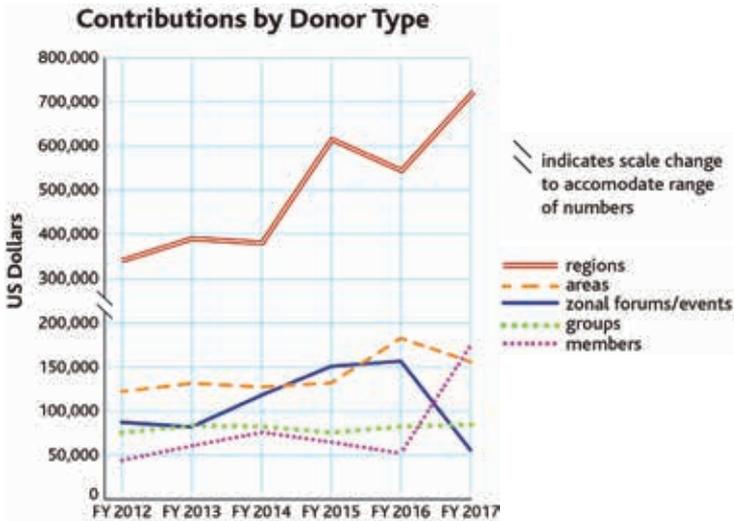


\$9,171,213

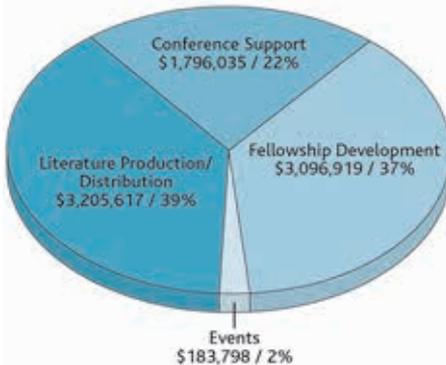
Total Operating Income

\$8,252,800

Total Expenses



Actual Expense for FY 2017



As most of our members understand, the fact that NA World Services must operate as a business does not change the spiritual nature of our goals as an organization. The goals set forth in A Vision for NA Service, approved at WSC 2010, remain our touchstone and guide everything we do. The continued pursuit of this vision inspires us to provide the highest level of services we can, as documented in the remainder of the full *Annual Report*. ⑦

Communications: We are listening

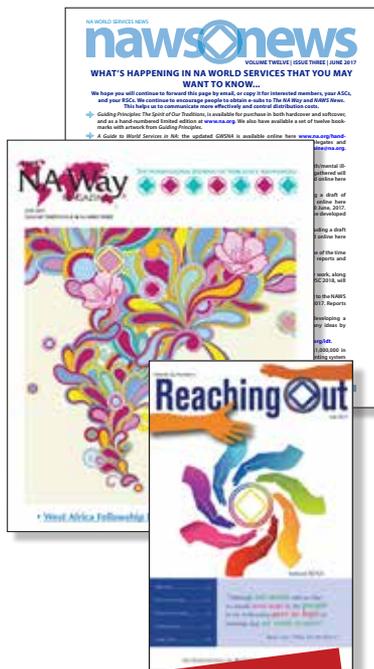
NA World Services acts as a conduit for information between the World Board and the NA Fellowship. We use every avenue available to hear the Fellowship—surveys, workshop results, web meetings, project input, phone calls, emails, Issue Discussion Topic feedback, regional reports, zonal meetings, and much more. Office staff synthesize information from this myriad of sources and make it available to the World Board in a form that helps shape their work.

In addition, the office uses several tools to communicate on behalf of the Board. We produce reports like this one, periodicals like *NAWS News* and *The NA Way Magazine*, as well as web meetings, workshops, and a suite of Conference-related materials as directed by the WB. These offer insights into how the Board has responded to Fellowship input and communicate upcoming opportunities for further collaboration.

There are numerous ways you can provide input:

- participate in a workshop
- attend one of many web meetings www.na.org/webinar
- subscribe to NA periodicals to stay informed www.na.org/subscribe

**2016–2017 NAWS Annual Report
in full
www.na.org/AR2017**



**See you at WCNA 37
Orlando, Florida USA
30 August-
2 September,
2018**

