

**WESTERN QUEENS AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE
Of NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

*WQA
PO Box 6422
Astoria, NY 11106*



**GSR ORIENTATION
PACKET**

As of Feb 2009

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GSR ORIENTATION PACKET

In addition to this packet you will receive (unless your group already has them):

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- A copy of the most recent WQASC Policy

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GROUP SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE – ORIENTATION

What is a Group Service Representative (GSR)?

A group service representative is the link between the group and the Narcotics Anonymous Service Structure. The GSR is the voice of the group at the area level.

What does the GSR do?

The GSR brings group input, suggestions and motions to the Area Service Committee (ASC) for discussion. The GSR takes notes of relevant matters which come from other Groups, the Area, Region and World so they may carry the information back to the group to keep them aware of all business concerning Narcotics Anonymous.

Who is the GSR?

A GSR is a member elected by the group to represent them at the ASC. The member should have a willingness to serve.

What are the GSR's responsibilities?

- Review the prior ASC minutes and prepare yourself for the next ASC meeting.
- Bring group concerns to the ASC.
- Show up early to sign in.
- Collect flyers and handouts to be brought back to the group.
- Purchase literature for the group.
- Bring group donations to the area.
- Takes notes and question matters you do not understand.
- Participate in discussions.
- Vote and carry your group's conscience.
- Make a GSR Report to your area.

The REPORT should include:

- Motions that were voted on.
- Elections.
- Motions from the Area, Region and World that requires the vote of the group.
- New meetings, meetings that are closed and meetings that need support.
- Upcoming activities.
- Area sub-committee issues, status, concerns and news.
- Area donations.
- Issues or concerns discussed at the ASC which effect groups, area, region or world, or Narcotics Anonymous as a whole.

Commonly used ABBREVIATIONS

ENYR **E**astern **N**ew **Y**ork **R**egion
RSC **R**egional **S**ervice **C**ommittee
ASC **A**rea **S**ervice **C**ommittee
RSO **R**egional **S**ervice **O**ffice
WSC **W**orld **S**ervice **C**onference
WSO **W**orld **S**ervice **O**rganization
BOD **B**oard of **D**irectors

WQACNA **W**estern **Q**ueens **A**rea **C**onv. Comm. of **N**A
H&I **H**ospitals & **I**nstitutions
PR **P**ublic **R**elations
E&A **E**vents and **A**ctivities
RD **R**egional **D**elegate
RCM **R**egional **C**ommittee **M**ember
GSR **G**roup **S**ervice **R**epresentative

What is the Area Service Committee (ASC)?

The ASC is a body of people who meet for the purpose of conducting area business. This body is the link between the groups and the region.

Who makes up the ASC?

- GSRs
- Elected Officers
- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Regional Committee Member
- Regional Committee Member Alt.
- Helpline Liaison
- Events and Activities Chairperson
- Public Relations Chairperson
- Literature Chairperson
- Hospitals & Institutions Chairperson
- Insurance Liaison
- Policy Chairperson
- Webmaster
- Concerned Members

Why is it important that you attend?

The important thing at any ASC meeting is that groups throughout the Area have a voice and a vote. Without this level of service there would be no communications between the group and the area.

Service Structure of Narcotics Anonymous

The following is a brief description of the service units of Narcotics Anonymous. A more complete description of service on the local level including groups, areas, metropolitan services, regions, etc., can be found in this *Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous*. Additional information about NA World Services may be found in *A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous*.

The NA Group

NA groups are local, informal associations of recovering addicts. They are the foundation of the NA service structure. Groups are formed for the primary purpose of carrying the NA message of recovery, and all their activities should reflect that purpose. Conducting Narcotics Anonymous meetings is the primary activity of an NA group. The group may conduct its own affairs in whatever way seems fit to its members, provided the group's actions are consistent with NA's Twelve Traditions, and do not adversely affect other groups or the entire NA Fellowship. In the conduct of the affairs of NA as a whole, the groups delegate to the rest of the service structure the responsibility for the fulfillment of NA services. Group service representatives (GSRs) are elected to participate on behalf of the groups in the area committee and the regional assembly.

The Area Service Committee (ASC)

The area committee is the primary means by which the services of a local NA community are administered. The area committee is composed of group service representatives, administrative officers (chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, treasurer), subcommittee chairpersons, and the area's regional committee members. The area committee elects its own officers, subcommittee chairpersons, and RCMs.

The Metropolitan Service Committee (MSC)

A metropolitan service committee may exist to administer a single set of coordinated NA subcommittees in a city that has more than one ASC, eliminating duplication of services and providing greater effectiveness in carrying the NA message.

The Regional Service Committee (RSC)

Regional service committees exist to pool the experience and resources of the areas and groups it serves. The RSC is composed of regional committee members (RCMs) elected by the region's member-areas; these RCMs usually elect regional committee officers from among themselves. RSCs organize regional assemblies at which GSRs and RCMs discuss a wide range of service matters, including those likely to come before the World Service Conference, and may elect a regional delegate and alternate delegate to the WSC.

Zonal Forums

Zonal forums are service-oriented sharing and/or business sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another. Although not a part of NA's formal decision-making system, world services and zonal forums interact in many ways.

NA World Services (NAWS)

World services are those services which deal with the needs of NA as a whole, and which NA offers to its members, its groups, and to society. The basic purposes of our world services are communication, coordination, information, and guidance. We provide 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.

About Eastern NY Region

The **Eastern New York Region (ENYR)** was created in June of 1997. We were seated at the **World Service Conference (WSC)** in 1998.

The **ENYR** is comprised **geographically** of **Nassau County** on Long Island to the east and **Queens County** to the west as well as the easternmost tip of Long Island in Suffolk County (Eastern Long Island Area). We are the southernmost border of New York State.

The **ENYR** is one of five Regions in **New York State**. The five Regions in New York State are The Eastern New York Region, the Northern New York Region, the Western New York Region, the ABCD Region and the Greater New York Region.

The **Eastern New York Region** consists of six Areas. The Areas are the **Nassau Area**, the **Queens Area**, the **Western Queens Area**, the **Metro Hispanic Area**, the **Simply Spiritual Area** and the **Eastern Long Island Area**.

The **Metro Hispanic Area** is unusual in that it is not a geographically defined Area; rather it is comprised of all the Spanish speaking meetings in New York City and Nassau County, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

The **ENYR** has over **230 meetings per week**.

The **ENY Regional Service Committee** meets on the second Saturday of every month from 2PM to 7PM.

The service body consists of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, one RCM from each Area, a Literature Distribution Chair, a Meeting List Coordinator, a Regional Delegate Team, a Web servant, Insurance Liaison, Convention Chair, Events and Activities Coordinator, Policy Chair, Public Relations Liaison, Hospitals and Institutions Chair, and a Helpline Chair.

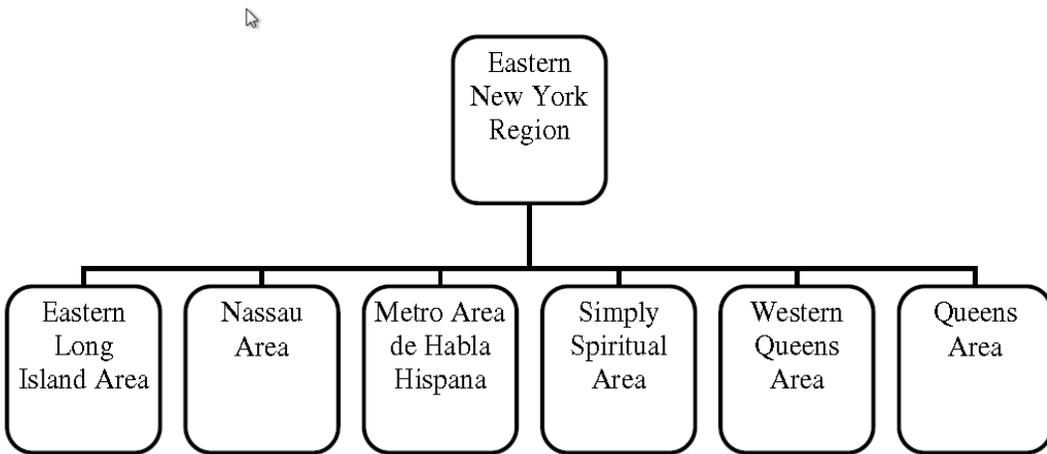
The main services the **ENY RSC** provides are

- Regional Meeting Lists
- Literature Sales and Distribution
- Hosting of CAR Workshops
- Regional Assemblies
- Public Relations Liaison
- Regional Convention
- Host of Regional Web site
- Insurance policy to cover all meeting places in the region.
- Support to member H&I committees through its H&I subcommittee
- Regional Phone and Helpline
- Provide a forum for the Areas to come together on a regular basis to discuss common issues of concern and seek solutions.
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The **ENY Region** is a member region of the **North East Zonal Forum** and sends its regional representatives to the twice-yearly

Forums. The Regional Delegate Team also attends (when feasible) World Service Meetings and the World Service Conference.

6 Areas in Eastern New York Region



At your next WQASC Meeting BE PREPARED AHEAD OF TIME!!

1. ALWAYS BRING: The Guide to Local Services (GTLS), the WQASC Policy, and The 12 Concepts of N.A. It is up to you (the GSR) to become familiar with these guidelines!
(The 12 Concepts of N.A. can be found in the GTLS or the separate booklet available for purchase.)
2. Literature Form/Area Donation: Fill out your Literature Order Form and/or Area donation AHEAD OF TIME so you can hand it/them to the treasurer as soon as you enter the building (Remember, NO Cash or Checks! Money Orders only!)
3. Group Report: Fill out your Group Report AHEAD OF TIME so you can hand it to the Secretary. At the Secretary's table, you will find large envelopes. If you want a hard copy of the minutes mailed to you, you will pay a postage fee and fill out your mailing address on the envelope. You will give it back to the secretary along with your group report after reading the group report aloud during the group reports portion of the WQASC meeting. If you only choose to have e-mailed copies of the minutes, make sure the secretary has your correct e-mail address. Minutes will contain motions to vote on as well as sub-committee reports.
4. Flyers: Pick up copies of flyers on the back table if they are not already distributed on the main tables. It's YOUR responsibility to obtain copies of these flyers every month to bring back to your groups!!

After every NASC Meeting PREPARE FOR NEXT TIME!!

1. Bring all flyers and reports back to your groups for discussion and archives.
2. If you don't understand something, ASK SOMEONE!
3. Speak with other GSRs, members of your home group, members and officers of sub-committees, members of the Administrative Committee, or anyone else about current motions being considered. The more you understand, the more informed a decision you can make when it comes time to vote at your groups and at Area.

For online copies of NA Handbooks and literature, please visit the WSO website.

<http://www.na.org/ips/eng/index.htm>

<http://www.na.org/handbooks/handbook-index.htm>

***The Western Queens Area Service Committee meets the last Wednesday of every month
@ The Good Shepherd Church, Crescent St. and 30th Rd. 7:30 PM.***

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webservant@westernqueensna.org

