

April, 1981

OPEN LETTER TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

c/o: REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON

FOR DISTRIBUTION TO EACH MEETING IN YOUR REGION

Dear Fellow Members:

Recently the Board of Directors of the World Service Office Inc. of Narcotics Anonymous passed a resolution that each Regional Chairperson would automatically become an Advisory Board Member to the World Service Office Board of Directors. This position is a rotating position based on your Region's elections of your Regional Chairperson (do not forget to inform World Service Office of each new election). Each Regional Chairperson now in office will automatically be listed as the Advisory Board of Directors and it will be announced at the World Service Conference.

The reason for the Advisory Board is to give the Fellowship at large a direct voice in the concerns of the operations and goals of the World Service Office.

We the Board of Directors of the World Service Office, eagerly await the input from each of your Region's Chairpersons. Please do so by writing directly to the President of the World Service Office Board of Directors, P.O. Box 622, Sun Valley, California 91352.

Another concern we would like to share with the Fellowship is of major importance. Our Fellowship is self supporting through our own contributions (the World Service Office has recently expanded to new quarters with larger offices, reproducing and printing room to better serve the Fellowship as a whole). It has come to our attention that more than one Region is maintaining amounts of money that are staggering far above a nominal four or five hundred prudent reserve. For instance, one Region alone, between its committees, has more than \$4,600 cash on hand, but is not supporting the World Service Office; completely ignoring our 7th Tradition in the respect of supporting the World Service Office. At this time we would also appeal to the Regions to encourage any meetings, areas, and regions themselves that owe money to the World Service Office to please bring their accounts for literature, etc. immediately up to date. Over \$9,000 of accounts due for literature already sent out are due at this time. In short, we need your support now. The WSO cannot operate properly let alone expand to meet your needs without your support on all levels. Please, whether you are an individual, a local meeting, an area, or a region, please, now, at this time, send funds directly to the World Service Office, P.O. Box 622, Sun Valley, California 91352. It is requested that regions, areas and meetings with money over a minimal prudent reserve please send their excess funds now to the WSO and on an on-going basis.

Sincerely in Fellowship,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WORLD SERVICE OFFICE INC. OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Dear Fellow Members:

It has come to the attention of the World Service Office that there are many untrue and erroneous stories circulating throughout the Fellowship. One is that the WSO doesn't need any more funding than it has needed in past years. If we are to be a responsible Fellowship and adhere to the Traditions, we must take a close look at the 7th Tradition. The newly elected Board of Directors of the WSO in its plan, has found itself in a position of asking the question - "Is it possible to service this Fellowship with the present facilities?" The answer we arrived at was no. It would be impossible at the present rate of growth to go on as before. We at this time, as well as seeking funds to update drastically, the overworked and desperate situation that our Manager is in, are seeking input from every region, area and member that will be so kind as to help us in this difficult time of transition. Many meetings becoming aware of the dilemma, are passing the basket one more time for the WSO. Many are planning functions specifically to support the WSO. Rummage sales are not an uncommon practice for an area to raise money. Please be of service, to help us to better serve you. At this time many misconceptions seem to be floating around the Fellowship. There is no time to deal with all of them in one letter. We can only let our conscience be our guide and seek the answer to how can I best serve the primary purpose, to help the newcomer who is so often lost to us when we are lost in the intrigue of controversy. Let us at this time, in each and every group throughout the world, take a stand for the Traditions. If we stand by them they will not fail us. They are real. They alone are true. They are as the Steps - "THEY WORK." It is a new dawn in Narcotics Anonymous and the measure of our needs is changing. We have no time to even look away for a moment, from the task at hand. Please join us in this all-out effort. We have faith in you, please have faith in us, that we can together creatively expand the WSO to a point of service, that we can rest a little easier knowing that we have all done our part. To Jimmy K., who has for so long done so much with so little, our gratitude will always be for you, who taught us how to share and care, "The N.A. Way." For the first time in the history of N.A., the WSO has got to go to the Fellowship. We have gotten too large in such a short period of time. It is going to take N.A. as a whole if we are to continue to give the quality of service that we promise. Please send all input in writing to your Conference Representative before this next Conference or directly to the WSO. We want to hear from you. Any and all suggestions will be considered and all questions and inquiries will be answered. We are suggesting that once a year on the birthday of N.A., that each region hold a special event to raise donations for the WSO. The World Service Conference has approved a new word processor in its 1980 session. Please help us to meet our goals and get it. The call is going out, we need your help.

PLEASE RESPOND!

Yours in Fellowship and Service,

THE SERVICE BOARD OF THE WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.