



Milwaukee Area Service Committee
of
Narcotics Anonymous

The History Of Milwaukee N.A.

1976

Our first N.A. meeting was held at A therapeutic community for drug addicts, called The Family, on November 20th., 1976. Four addicts from Chicago had come up to start this meeting. In attendance were about 20 addicts (a handful from the outside) and 15 professionals from the facility.

1977

Six other meetings were started including a UWM meeting. At UWM all student groups were given an office with a phone; hence, this area had it's first office from 1977 till 1978 when the UWM group folded. This office was rarely manned.

1978

In 1978 there were 10 meetings. We formed our first Unity Committee and had our first function at Pike Lake, on the fourth of July. We also had our first picnic at Washington Park, opened our first post office box, and held our first business meeting in August of 1978.

1979

We had 14 meetings including meetings in Wauwatosa, Waukesha, and Manitowoc. In April, we sent our first delegate to the 9th. World Service Conference. Our delegate represented Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Minnesota. Our first Public Information Committee and our first Literature Committee were formed. In November we had our first Thanksgiving Celebration.

1980

We started an on going delegate fund. We our first dance. Public Service Announcements were put on the radio. We started giving inpatients rides to meetings. We set up our first helpline thru an answering service. Four Milwaukee N.A. members went to WCNA X in Wichita and put in a bid for a World Convention in Milwaukee. We had our Retreat A Unity Weekend Campout in West Bend. Meetings during 1980 fell off to 7 regular meetings. We sent our first donation to California to our WSO. Milwaukee Area Service Committee decided to put in a bid for WCNA 12 at WCNA 11 in Miami. A big push began to get 10-12 solid meetings in Milwaukee to satisfy bid requirements.



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1981

We recieved 10 copies of our unapproved Basic Text. We started printing our Monthly Message. Members from Milwaukee were first interviewed by radio stations. Janesville and Kewasum GSR's start attending our Area Service Committee. Six Milwaukee addicts put in a weak bid at WCNA 11 in Miami on our "need" in this part of the country. There was a tie vote with Harrisburg, PA. It was put in the hands of H.P. with a flip of a coin. Milwaukee won it! We started sending Monthly Messages and When and Where's to groups and institutions around the state. We had 14 meetings at this time with 31 more around the state. Correctional institutions were first contacted.

1982

13 meetings in Milwaukee. Kenosha, Racine, Madison, and Appleton were represented at our ASC. A.A. Central Office started wanting our literature and meeting lists for those inquiring. We continued raising funds and organizing for WCNA XII, Our World Convention. WCNA XII was a success with 575 registered. WCNA XII cost \$2,500 and netted \$11,000. The convention unified not only Milwaukee, but all of Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana. We were approached by Illinois to start a region of Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Michigan. They proposed to get together for now and each state split away later. WCNA XII donated \$1,000 to Milwaukee ASC. Milwaukee ASC decides to use the money to open an office. The money was put in C.O. freeze. Our first regionals were held every month from Oct. 82-March 83.

1983

23 meetings in Milwaukee. T-shirts become a big fundraising item. March-the first regionals held in Milwaukee. A committee was set up to study and make recommendations on the financial feasibility of a C.O., then develop structure and functions for a C.O. We put our phone number in the yellow pages. In August a motion was made for Milwaukee to host a state wide convention. This motion was taken back to the groups for a vote. November: Each group is asked to send a delegate to the C.O. committee. In November and December our convention was almost scrapped because of lack of support.

1984

We had 29 meetings in Milwaukee. In January, our statewide convention committee appoints chairpeople and started planning, organizing, and raising money. Sept. 84 rented office at 27th and State. Oct 84 we opened our C.O. We opened with two four hour shifts a day, 7 days a week with call forwarding to recovering addicts homes after office hours for 24 hour coverage. Milwaukee was the 6th N.A. office to open in the world and the first to be manned with recovering addicts 8 hours a day 7 days a week. Our first state convention was held in November and at the last business meeting, a quorum was taken of ASRs from around our state and the Milwaukee C.O. became the WI State C.O. Our first convention was a major success.

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1985

We had our first Baseball Tournament. We had 30 meetings in our area at this time. Our State C.O. was renamed WI. State Service Office.

1986

We had our first Mini-Conference. High schools were contacted and speakers sent. WE had our first Easter Retreat and our first White Water Rafting Weekend. Our N.A. Public Service Announcements were put on T.V. and Wisconsin became a region.

1987

Our Wisconsin State Service Office became our Wisconsin Regional Service Office. In May Milwaukee Area Service Committee takes over responsibility or cost and management of our Helpline in our Regional Office and started paying rent. We also reinstated our Literature Committee. Milwaukee had 51 meetings ranging from 4 to 10 addicts per meeting, and won the bid for WSNAC V.

1988

Milwaukee planned and organized for hosting WSNAC V. WSNAC V was a big success, bring together an estimated 1,500 addicts with almost 1,000 registered.

1989

We formed our first Additional Needs Sub-Committee to help addicts with special needs.

1990

Waukesha Area broke away from Milwaukee Area Service Committee and formed WANA Area Service Committee.

1991

Milwaukee Area Helpline Office (MAHO) moves from Center St. where it had been located for a few years, to 68th. and Beliot.

1992

We have 42 meetings per week, with the fastest growing population being the inner city.