

Northeast Philadelphia Area Service Committee

March 9, 1984

PHILADELPHIA AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE:

Approximately two years ago the existing Philadelphia Area Service Committee was reorganized into five areas. Those five areas now make up the Philadelphia Region. During an Area Service meeting, at that time, it was brought up that due to the number of meetings (approximately thirty) the needs of the individual groups could not be addressed. A person at the meeting took the responsibility of looking at a map and dividing the existing area into five new areas to better serve the group's needs. At the following Area Service meeting, the person brought back their proposal, a vote was taken, and the area was divided into five areas.

Recently, a group of N.A. members in Northeast Philadelphia felt their group's needs could best be fulfilled by forming a new area, since the Philadelphia Area now has at least twenty-two groups. Those N.A. members also felt that by forming their own area, the groups in Northeast Philadelphia could be more supportive of each area, and could better address their group's needs in a smaller setting rather than the present setting of the large Philadelphia Area.

According to the N.A. Service Manual, it is suggested that an area could form where groups share the same telephone area, or if the needs of the groups warrant their own Area Service Committee. There are no guidelines in the Service Manual about how to go about reorganizing an area. This time instead of doing it through the Area Service Committee, and having only the GSR's vote, members of groups in the Northeast voted at their business meetings or emergency business meetings. Initially those members in the Northeast involved in the venture contacted all meetings north of Bridge Street (as that area is usually thought of to make up Northeast Philadelphia) and invited them into the area. It was estimated that there would be eleven groups to contact. As of this writing, eight groups have joined the area, one tabled the idea, one rejected the idea, and one has yet to vote on this matter.

On February 29, 1984, GSRs, Officers, and members of the eight groups met and formed the 'Northeast Philadelphia Area Service Committee'. The following groups will make up the new area:

3-2 Group	Primary Purpose
Gloria Dei	Reality
New Horizons I	Somerton
New Horizons II	Abington Hospital

Future planning and preliminary sessions will be held before the first Northeast Philadelphia Area Service Committee meeting on Sunday May 6, 1984 at 1:00 PM. As before, at our first planning session, an officer from the Philadelphia Area Service Committee was contacted and asked to attend. In future meetings, officers or interested persons in the Philadelphia Area Service Committee are invited to attend our planning sessions.

As in the case of the last reorganization, a sufficient time, in this case two months, was needed to make a smooth transition. All concerned in the Northeast Philadelphia Area Service Committee want to work closely with the Philadelphia Area Service Committee to ensure a smooth transition. We do not see the reorganization as a derogatory issue. We see it as a device to better serve the needs of the groups in Philadelphia, which will better serve the needs of it's members in a smaller setting, and carry the message of recovery. An added benefit to the reorganization is the possibility of in the near future, to have the Philadelphia Area Service Committee and the Northeast Philadelphia Area Service Committee form a region, and share their needs, concerns, and voice at the World Service Conference.

We would like to thank the Philadelphia Area Service Committee for their past support and concerns for the groups in Northeast Philadelphia. We would like to thank you in advance for any experience you can share with us, and we look forward in working with you in the reorganization. In the fellowship.

Sincerely,



Jim H.
Temporary Chairperson
Northeast Philadelphia
Area Service Committee



Rich W.
Temporary Vice Chairperson
Northeast Philadelphia
Area Service Committee

HISTORICAL
PERSPECTIVE
+
PERSONAL
EXPERIENCE

Several members have a vision - need to split becomes
apparent

B.CO. SPLIT - We made the mistake of splitting on our own,
without discussing it with Phila. A.S.C. - created
resentments + disunity

2nd STEP

↓
Repeat same mistakes, expecting different results

We would have been much better off taking our
decision through service channels