

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES

Greeting to all my friends in Nicotine Anonymous,

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Nicotine Anonymous World Services Conference. First, please let me apologize for not being as involved with our organization this past 11 months as much as I would have liked to have been. Lots of life changes for a lot of people in the past year or two. I have watched a lot of people go through a great deal of tragedies and life changes, things and events that they were not prepared for. "Life On Life's Terms," never believed it would get me too. In the past 18 months, I have lost my job, buried six friends and family including my father, as well as been forced to give up my life in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and return to my home town of Wattsburg, PA in Erie County. It has been a very challenging and unpleasant year but I am not using nicotine and I have all of you to thank for that.

Our organization is getting more and more advanced. We are learning a lot of new things and reaching out more than ever before. However our organization right here in the U.S. is facing some very unfortunate circumstances. We are losing meetings in various areas and we have large areas where there are no meetings whatsoever. On a positive note we are also developing new meetings. We are reaching out to the world. People are learning about us worldwide, and if we can continue expanding we will continue to grow. If anyone has ever considered starting a meeting in your area, you don't need permission, just do it. Our website is bigger and better than ever, which includes an updated Meeting Starter Kit, and with online services like Google Translate almost anyone can access our pamphlets online and translate them in their own language, saving them and us time and money. Affordable help in recovery if you will.

The past year has been filled with progress and challenges as we are fast approaching our 31st annual Nicotine Anonymous World Services Conference in Richfield/Cleveland, Ohio on April 29, 30 and May 1, 2016. Please visit our website at www.nicotine-anonymous.org and click on the 2016 World Services Conference. Enclosed is the WSC flyer. Please, if at all possible, join us and offer your experience, strength, hope and wisdom to help those still suffering with addiction to nicotine. We have developed workshops that will prove to be interesting and crucial to the wellness of our fellowship. We need your input at this gathering.

Supporting our cause is not possible without the help and support of our members. The Gift Of Gratitude program is a wonderful way to support the fellowship. A \$10.00 a month tax deductible donation can help us to continue our goal to help the world become free of the nicotine prison. There is no doubt that the help and support we all provide helps to save lives and extend lives. Give what you can through service, financial support, or both.

Service is or gratitude in action. Be grateful in knowing you have been helped to become free of nicotine and can also help those still prisoners of nicotine addiction. Helping others helps ourselves stay free of nicotine. This is a win win for everyone who serves. There are so many ways to be of service to those still suffering and those of us living day to day in recovery such as

donations, intergroup participation, at World Services, on the World Services board, chairing local groups, or starting local Nicotine Anonymous recovery groups in your area. If you are currently in a group or chairing a group, please be sure to communicate with your intergroup. I have found after contacting some individual groups and speaking with them that they feel no contact with the fellowship as a whole. It is important that you contact your intergroup if they do not contact you. Meetings are held quarterly and every group should be included. There are often issues to vote on and to be communicated to the board. The board asks all groups to vote on specific topics, so please get involved. If you feel your group is being left out, speak up and be heard. Your thoughts, ideas, and concerns are important. WE need to get the word out, the tobacco companies are brain washing a whole new generation of nicotine users to believe their products are safe and non-offensive. Any and all nicotine delivery systems are dangerous.

During my nearly six years of recovery, I have learned so very much about this organization and its importance to the general public. I feel as if I have only scratched the surface. My higher power is all of you- your spirits, your energy, your positive forces! All of this keeps me smober. Thank you each and every one of you involved in this organization! Every single person has something to offer this organization.

I am looking forward to seeing friends old and new and meeting as many people as I can.

In Service,

Andy A.

WSO Chair