

## FRIDAY NIGHT DCM ROUNDTABLE

MODERATOR: FRANK (the Fist) DCMC AREA 60 DIST

SECRETARY: NANCY MC alt DCM AREA 07 DIST 29

Meeting was opened with the serenity prayer. Moderator was introduced and meeting format. Volunteers asked for note taking.

Topics to be considered:

Receive agenda items in a timely manner

How to get members involved and interested in service structure

How DCM's can support the GSR

How to encourage GSR's to get a service sponsor

How to approach dark groups-unregistered or with no GSR

DCM 101 how to approach groups for the first time

How to encourage GSRs to attend AREA assembly's

How to cover or reach large geographical areas

Enticing new GSR's to stay, and how to attract them to the service structure

What can DCM/GSR do to reverse the negative perception of general service

Spirit of rotation

Workshop attendance and participation of the GSR's

How to perform a new GSR orientation

Importance of Alternate GSR's

How to generate interest in reading the service manuals

Out of the above submitted-it was agreed to formulate a discussion agenda that combined the redundant topics.

### **SUPPORTING GSR'S**

Orientation-reading svc manual-getting to assembly's-service sponsors-enticing GSR's to stay and get involved-workshop participation

DCMS can generate interest from GSR's by pointing out the controversial topics from the agenda items and explain how the general opinion of AA members DRIVE THE PROCESS.

A DCM created an introductory packet for GSR's and Alternates with an assigned mentor that agrees to meet with new GSR.

Emphasize the enjoyment and spiritual growth, and to inspire no fear in asking questions. Be persistent and consistent.

Some GSRs were excited about workshop topics, then no GSRs would attend...how can we promote participation?

Bring in food at the workshops, read the service manuals, have monthly potlucks and introduce important topics. Inviting them to an ice cream social, then "enticing" GSRs and members to business meetings.

Have Delegate or alternate give GSR orientation class

GSR's want information on how to report back to groups: Bullet points-keep it short and simple, Draw from own experience as GSR. Have educated predecessor, have meeting in home or monthly spot. Start by asking the GSR's what they are doing, keep in touch, send updates and information via email. Treat them like sponsees. Keep meetings 1 hour ,30 min orientation, 15 min fill out forms. K.I.S.S. one

agenda item a month. Explain the difference between central office and general service, and the four geographical: region, area, district, GSO. Break down the service structure and promote team work. DCM had 30 GSR's fed them, sent emails, had seasoned GSR's or district liasons give pointers. Send the minutes out the night of the district meeting and one week before the area assembly and what to expect...the result was a large turnout.

GSR reports back to group: create template in agenda packet. Have volunteer GSR present template in concise form.

Keep a standardized GSR orientation guide

-address duties of GSR in that district

-why we have a conference

-establish emotional connection

### **HOW TO GET GSR'S TO STAY AND BECOME INTERESTED IN GENERAL SERVICE PROCESS:**

Attraction rather than promotion-roping people into GSR position is not conducive to gain participation.

Cannot transmit what we do not have: share enthusiasm and love for general service.

Don't wait for volunteers: delegate, having a cause, being a part of, have agendas.

Let GSR's know that the DCM's are here to serve-the DCM is taking one more step down in the service structure.

### **DCM 101**

How to approach a group that has not been attended: one DCM went to a group and thanked the member for allowing them to have HE be their group conscience. The area registrar has a list of all groups in the district with current contact and meeting location.

How to approach the dark group secretary before or after?

Share at meeting?

Wait for announcements?

Attend business meetings?

Some asked for 5 min at end of meeting or made announcement.

DCM put together a packet with envelopes also had the location of the meeting, DCM address, home group number-leave that packet.

Agenda items sent to DCM and DCMC-they summarized the back ground info on agenda items. One DCM went to a dark group and introduced agenda items to group secretary and members of group.

Interest was generated. Then Listened : WAIT-why am I talking?

DCM can offer dark group members an opportunity to participate and ask one person to become a group contact. Explain difference between intergroup delegate and GSR.

Make an announcement about the process of gen service- The Daily reflections or Big Book change.

Established Grey group meeting list where there has been some participation in recent past.

DCM got list of dark groups asked other GSRs to pair up and visit groups and really talked to the members-gathered information on the flavor of the group. DCM explained that they were there to be of service to them-good response-received lots of calls and interest.

DCMC volunteered to become that groups GSR.

Respect that groups desire to NOT participate

Alternate DCM was not able to learn from DCM and felt unprepared to become DCM

What is the first thing you do?

Create district meeting agenda, get informed on conference agenda items, hold dist mtg regularly.

### **HOW TO REVERSE NEGATIVE IMPRESSION OF GENERAL SERVICE**

One DCM had 120 meetings and only 3 GSRs 6 sub-districts and no DCM's-so a grass roots effort was put together: establish group contact, have dist meeting 1 day per month=have the meeting, lights on, coffee hot!

Pitch for gen svc-need for voice in AA and how it is run by its members!

Rule 64 don't take ourselves too seriously-carry message of joy we get from gen svc

Incorporate old timers in decision process-we need their wisdom-ask if they have ever attended a district meeting or requested that their sponsees to participate.

Ask one person at a time, express fulfillment. Use compassion with apathy. Use gen svc to help with members hitting bottoms in sobriety.

Active districts have picnics, projects, literature drives, PI/CPC.

Encounter the negative dissenter one on one and show the positive side-educate with quality info

Show where district contributions go-promotion ok within AA

Pamphlet was created what the district does-projecting the message of "How can we be of Service" regardless of 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions.

When chairing meetings share yourself the importance of general service, carrying the message, how important service has been in your sobriety. Spend positive time on people who do attend-keep those interested by showing the impact in corrections, special needs and all the opportunities.

Have the belief yourself that action creates solution.

YPAA helps reverse negativity with events and cohosts on conferences. Posse Up and attend!

Delegate to GSRs to attend tradition meetings and share about PRAASA.

### **DCMC**

Rural issues with districts = form Unity groups take caravans of AA speaker meetings

Have Area officer visit district meeting

Approach gently

Have district inventory

The meeting was closed at 10PM with announcement that Scott C will be moderating Sat DCM rountable. Meeting closed with serenity prayer.

PRAASA was a fantastic experience for me and it is my distinct honor to serve~! Mahola

Respectively submitted,

Nancy Mc

Traditional Group GSR

District 29 Alternate DCM Area 07