

Discussion Topics: Infrastructure and Public Image

Leadership:

Problems:

Open mindedness – No micromanaging – Help new members get into the service
Expecting too much from new members
Negative image portrayed by others in the fellowship
Warm-body syndrome is a problem by rail-road members

Solutions:

Encourage and train new members
Effective sponsorship and lead by example to get others into service
Prevent intimidation and help others
Sponsorship a lot can be done
Creating Vice Chair positions for service to train- Treasurer, Secretary, etc.
Leave mentors in place to train new members
Training sessions and listen to “old timers” for advice

Public Image:

Problems:

People are opinionated
Predatory behavior in the fellowship
Gossip
Being judgmental of others who may dress inappropriate
Rude members in public
Behavior of members at functions

Solutions:

Address members with predatory issues – Do not pretend these things are not happening
Unity and being responsible for yourself and help others who need some help
Experience, strength and hope shared with professionals
Acknowledge the problems and make an effort to change perceptions
Men work with men and women work with women in sponsorship
Work your own program and become responsible
Getting true information out to the public about N.A. and have PI explain what we are about
Have the Region or PI of the convention talk to professionals as the convention is going on
Take care of our phone lines

Public Image can be a topic of N.A. meetings

Get to the source of rumors and take care of where it is coming from

H&I and PI Brainstorming:

Contact areas of the state, in small towns without N.A. meetings, to let them know N.A. is here and how to contact N.A.

Regional PI presentation going to state conventions of doctors, lawyer, judges, etc. and presenting to these professionals and letting them know N.A. is here.

Present to colleges and other types of education facilities to reach out and let the facilities know about N.A.

Message board on website for H&I and PI to communicate with each other –
Have a contact list of phone numbers for others to reach members without internet or computer access.

Have the Regional H&I support speakers or panel to come into jails and institutions to discuss N.A. in rural areas.