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Discussions focused on the expansion of virtual prison meetings across multiple states, the implementation of NA content on tablets for incarcerated individuals, and the development of relationships with correctional departments to improve access to NA resources. The meeting also addressed the behind-the-walls program, leadership initiatives, and efforts to streamline literature requests and provide audio content for members with low literacy levels. | | |  |  | |  | | |  |  | |  | | |  | | |  | | | **Summary** | | |  |  | | **AI Transcription and Regional Chair Update** | | | In the meeting, Patty expressed her hope for the H. And I chairs to be on the invite list and discussed the use of AI for transcribing audio. The team also discussed a prison tour in Pennsylvania and a virtual meeting invitation. Patty introduced the new H. And I rregional chair, Erica, and expressed gratitude for Terry's past work. She also mentioned that questions and comments would be emailed to the speakers for response. | | |  |  | | **Open-Mindedness and Collaboration in AZ's Efforts** | | | AZ discussed the importance of open-mindedness and collaboration in their efforts. They highlighted the success of their recent endeavors, which stemmed from reconsidering their previous close-mindedness. AZ emphasized the need for rotation of service to keep new ideas and blood in the game. They also mentioned the importance of working with the PR committee to bring additional efforts and ideas. AZ's position as the H and I coordinator was discussed, which involves maintaining the relationship between the regional H and I and Arizona Department of Corrections headquarters. This has led to regular discussions about solutions against addiction. | | |  |  | | **Improvements in Badging Approval Process** | | | AZ discussed the improvements made to the badging approval process and the elimination of the TV test for volunteers under 8 months. They also mentioned the pending improvement for more communication with incarcerated individuals. AZ highlighted their efforts in uploading literature and recordings onto tablets and supporting area prison coordinators. They also discussed the survey they conducted to gather data on the use of tablets in prisons and the need for word-of-mouth promotion. AZ mentioned the virtual platform for different facilities to log in and watch the speaker at their conventions. | | |  |  | | **Behind the Walls Program Discussion** | | | In the meeting, AZ discussed the behind the walls program, which has been running for 24 years. The program involves two key service positions: a behind the walls coordinator and a behind the walls literature person. The coordinator is responsible for organizing and distributing mail, while the literature person sends out literature to the members. The program also has specific requirements for sponsors, including a full orientation, two years of consecutive claim time, and working all 12 steps. The meeting also included a discussion about the requirements for sponsees, including all correspondence going to the regional H and I po box. Patty thanked Terry for their hard work and service. Paul, the criminal legal liaison, also shared a slideshow about the program. | | |  |  | | **Virtual Prison Meetings Expand Significantly** | | | The virtual prison meetings for Narcotics Anonymous have expanded significantly since their inception in 2020. Starting with a proof of concept in Ohio in August 2023, the program now includes facilities from multiple states, with up to 250 incarcerated members and 10-15 outside members participating in the "Freedom of Choice" meetings. The success of these virtual meetings has led to the creation of additional programs like "Virtual Freedom" in Indiana and "Miraculous Mondays" led by Colorado region PR. The meetings provide a valuable connection for incarcerated individuals, offering both serious recovery discussions and lighter moments, such as joke-telling sessions before the meetings begin. | | |  |  | | **Virtual Meetings for Incarcerated Individuals** | | | COASCNA discussed the virtual meetings held for incarcerated individuals, emphasizing the importance of security and the vetting process for participants. The meetings, known as "common interest prison meetings," are cross between H and I panels and topic meetings, with a focus on steps 1, 2, and 3 of the NA program. The meetings are invitation-only, with a waiting room to ensure only invited participants can join. COASCNA also highlighted the benefits of these meetings, including the opportunity for isolated members to continue doing service and the growth of virtual meetings. The meetings are designed to provide a sense of community and connection for the incarcerated individuals, who often report feeling isolated and disconnected from the outside world. | | |  |  | | **COASCNA's Prison Tablet Initiative** | | | COASCNA discussed the growth of relationships with the Indiana Department of Corrections, which led to the introduction of the E-learture on 22,000 tablets in Indiana. COASCNA also mentioned the development of the Colorado Miraculous Mondays at 1:30 PM and the potential for daily secure NA meetings across the country. COASCNA shared the success of pushing out literature to all 45,000 tablets in Ohio and Arizona, and the subsequent sharing session with UK prison officials. The goal is to make it easier for incarcerated individuals to access virtual meetings. | | |  |  | | **NA Prison Services and Outreach** | | | The Central Ohio Area Service Committee of NA (COASCNA) has established monthly leadership meetings with the Department of Corrections and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to coordinate NA services in prisons. They have successfully implemented several initiatives, including arranging for free postage for incarcerated members to send letters to NA, coordinating World Convention shout-outs from Ohio facilities, and working with tablet manufacturers to make NA e-literature available to 1.4 million end users across US correctional facilities. COASCNA has also organized in-person speaker jams at prisons and is assisting with informal bridging the gap services for released members. They maintain frequent contact with corrections officials, sharing NA information and inviting them to events, which helps build strong relationships and educate about NA's principles, including self-support. | | |  |  | | **NA Literature Access in Correctional Facilities** | | | Paul presents information about NA literature and resources available on tablets in correctional facilities through Edobo and Cipherworks. He discusses the benefits of audio content for incarcerated members with low literacy levels. Paul explains a new streamlined process for requesting literature from NAWS using form letters. He shares a spreadsheet showing which Colorado facilities have access to NA content via Edobo, but cautions that local administrators can restrict access. Paul also mentions that Florida has created a new position for a Zoom H&I coordinator. | | |  |  | | | |