

**NAIGSO'S 1<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE**  
**Chet Hunt Room, Many Nations in Recovery**  
**3928 Illinois St., San Diego, CA. 92104**  
**30 January 2005**

May 29,2005

The first General Service Conference of Alcoholic Anonymous for North American Indian Nations took place in San Diego, California, on January 30, 2005. The suggestions and intents expressed at this conference are being used to guide our efforts in the upcoming year.

The statuses of the suggestions and intents expressed at the conference are as follows:

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

**Don V.** Described a need to have information on our reservation meetings available at the local A.A. Central Offices Telephone Watch Desk. He also recommended that donations be collected for NAIGSO-A.A. in addition to donating to the local A.A. Central Office. Don announced that the aluminum Native American medallions were no longer available but all others were in stock and on hand.

**Status:** The NAIGSO Meetings and Loners Directories are being formatted to PDF files in preparation of electronic mailing to AA Central Offices in North America. An NAIGSO Accounting Form for group's use has been posted to the NAIGSO website.

**Paula F.** Remarked about the need for service volunteers to join the 'Contact Release' program, to serve in the jails and help inmates coming out of prison to get established in the fellowship.

**Status:** The NAIGSO Loner Directory will be made available to North American AA Central Offices to help establish contact people for Indians coming out of prison.

**Joshua W.** Expressed that awareness representatives could speak at places like National University, about our goals & service activities.

**Status:** Ongoing. To date a member was a guest speaker to a class of graduate students at the National University Marriage and Family Therapy Program. He spoke on his experience in the area of Native American culture and its impact on substance abuse.

**Mark D.** Suggested that more urban Native American Indian Meetings be started at ALANO Clubs.

**Status:** Two Native American meetings have been established; one meeting at the Pathfinders, Alano Club, Inc. in Los Angeles and the other at Freedom Alano Club in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Vicki F.** Sees a need for a Public Information Committee to make known our Goals & Service Activities. As the Newsletter Editor, She welcomes articles, artwork, and information on new meetings & events all over Turtle Island. Stories are welcomed, also. You may submit items to <mailto:newsletter@naigso-aa.org>.

**Status:** The spring edition of the newsletter is scheduled to come out next month, May 2005.

**Bill R.** Suggested that we all take flyers to other meetings, make extra effort contacting other people & educate local Central Offices about Native American meetings & events.

**Status:** The NAIGSO Meetings and Loners Directories are being formatted to PDF files in preparation of electronic mailing to AA Central Offices in North America. NAIGSO members manned an information table at the San Diego Woman's Wellness Conference 3-7 April 2005 and facilitated a Woman's AA Meeting for the conference.

**Judy V.** as treasurer suggests passing around an additional can at your meetings labeled NAIGSO-A.A. This additional contribution would come directly to NAIGSO and not be included in the pie for sharing of funds.

**Status:** Groups have been reminded. Also, a NAIGSO Accounting Form for group's use has been posted to the NAIGSO website.

**Dan F.** Since the first meetings in Bishop & LaPosta, lots of seeds were planted by reaching out to others talking about NAIGSO's vision of service to AA and our openness to Native American traditions, customs, and spirituality. Reach out everywhere because there are four colors in our emblem indicating the different races of people. If we educate everyone I believe that the unity of the AA spirit will spread into Indian Country this generation. Where there is unity and service there will be recovery.

**Status:** An information package is assembled for distributing to AA delegates to help them understand NAIGSO's vision of service to AA and Native American Peoples. An NAIGSO Council Gathering is being planned for September 2005 at Mammoth, California.

**Shannon B.** Stated that it was confusing, that there were no Native Americans at her Native American Group...How do I reach out to them? Guidance is requested for this type of situation.

**Status:** Open and ongoing

**Don W. Sr.** The views of NAIGSO-AA are changing for the better, as we steadfast and follow the 12 Traditions. People are becoming aware that we are not some cult or outside body but truly an AA entity with a desire to serve the Native North American alcoholic.

**Status:** No action – comment only

**Chuck R.** Stated, "that being acknowledged by the GSO in NY" is a historic event. He was thankful to the Elders for their efforts in NAIGSO. He further stated, "Alcoholism is very rampant in the California Native American people residing in Bishop, L.A. & San Francisco" and he gave thanks to the attendees coming from those locations for their faithfulness and good work.

**Status:** No action – comment only

**Allen P.** Stated that he has seen meeting information on the web and would like to see this information handed out at meetings.

**Status:** Open item. At present we're depending upon group secretaries to make copies off the website for the group's use. Present NAIGSO funds limit our making hard copies of the directories and then mailing them out to the groups.

**Joshua W.** Expressed that Indian People are watching our meetings, don't be discouraged, they will begin to show up the more they understand we are for real.

**Status:** No action – comment only

**Sylvia W.** Spoke of her four brothers lost to alcohol, that they wanted to get sober but did not have support. We are working diligently to provide this support for native peoples today.

**Status:** This is the heart of our vision. We must take heart and remember our loved ones have not died in vain if we pass their experience, strength and hope on to others. Support is coming.

**Don W. Sr.** Stated that when you start a Native American meeting, Native American people will come and take part as they realize more and more that it is their meeting. They will become more comfortable as they are encouraged to include traditional ways into the order of the meeting.

**Status:** No action – comment only

**Bill R.** Suggested that people moving out of the area verify your meeting and your new location to update our NAIGSO directory(s).

**Status:** Ongoing. This is one where we must educate ourselves and be aware of the responsibility we have to the fellowship. Pass it on.