

TO: RSR's, RSR-A's and WLC Members

FROM: Danette Creel, Coordinator
World Literature Committee

DATE: May 11, 1988

RE: Enclosed letter from Vince Daley,
WLC Chairperson

The enclosed letter from Vince Daley outlines the plan of action for the 88-89 conference year. Because time did not allow him to fully outline this plan during the Friday Conference reports, we are enclosing it here for your information. Please copy and distribute it freely throughout the literature community of your region.

DC/ng

Enc: Vince Daley 88-89 literature plan

cc: Area and Regional Literature Committees

danette\planmemo.doc/

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951



TO: All Area and Regional Literature Committees
FROM: Vince Daley, Chairperson
World Literature Committee
DATE: May 11, 1988
RE: The 1988 - 89 WSC Literature Committee Basic Plan of Action

SOME INTRODUCTIONS

Last year was a special year for the World Literature Committee as we began to take a serious inventory of our guidelines. Over the years we have learned through experience what works and what doesn't, so, with that experience, we began the process of restructuring the World Literature Committee, opening up membership to Regional Literature Chairpersons, and making needed improvements and changes to the development process of our Narcotics Anonymous Conference Approved Literature. Our past Chairperson, Michael Lee, provided excellent leadership and guidance and much has been accomplished to restore the Fellowship's trust, participation and enthusiasm in our literature process. In a sense, we've completed the first stage of this rebuilding and I hope with your help to see the second half accomplished this year.

As your new World Literature Chairperson, I hope to be able to give you the same energy, communication and accountability I did last year as Chairperson of the Ad-Hoc Committee on *It Works*. During the *It Works* process, I travelled throughout the Fellowship extensively and met many of you. We learned many skills and techniques workshopping our Step book and I know we have a lot of talent among our members. We need to share what we've learned, by teaching and encouraging others to participate in writing, and to give what time and care we can to the pamphlets and our book *It Works*. It is to address the matter of accomplishing these tasks that this letter is being written to you.

GENERAL FELLOWSHIP LITERATURE AGENDA

What made the *It Works* project successful last year was that we as a Fellowship worked together in the same direction. This letter can be used as a suggested agenda which we hope will help organize the tasks and projects that need to be accomplished this Conference year. There are several reasons for sending this out.

First, last year we had the addition of 100 new Area and Regional Literature Committees. This indicates that one third of our committees have new chairpersons. We hope that publishing this suggested agenda will aid you in scheduling area and regional workshops. This is simply an attempt to share some experience with you on how to set up a practical and well organized work schedule. The amount of work and time spent on any particular piece will vary

from region to region. How much time you spend on a particular piece will be determined in a natural fashion by the amount of input your members contribute.

Secondly, more members than ever before have gotten involved in the writing of our literature. We've found how important it is to help provide the forum and atmosphere where our members can contribute to the development of our literature. This is your most important role next to making sure our groups have the literature they need for their meetings. Our most productive literature committees have one thing in common--they meet regularly. Two or more meetings a month coupled with a project that has our members' interest seems to produce results.

I would like to add this observation. Some of the best work we receive comes from small committees consisting of 5 or less members so don't feel you're struggling or unsuccessful because you don't have a room full of people. If every literature committee had 5 members, that would be over 1500 of us reviewing and working on our literature. Every time you meet, picture yourself plugging into and being a part of a worldwide forum. We as a World Literature Committee will do all we can to aid and assist you. The 1988 - 89 work year looks something like this. Until October do your best to review and input the pamphlets and guidelines. In October a review form on *It Works The Traditions* will be out to you to review and input for one year. That's going to take quite a lot of time, care and effort as you will see.

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

Questions and Answers (Example May 2 - June) input deadline 10/31/88
For Those In Treatment (Example July and August) input deadline 5/31/89
In Times of Illness (Example September and October) input deadline
5/31/89

Guidelines and first half of *Handbook For Narcotics Anonymous Literature Committees* up to the World Lit section (We will have a review form draft of the Handbook out to you around July 1st. This will need your immediate attention as the input deadline will be September 30th.)

It Works Traditions (October 88 to October 89) You will hear more on this.

Two to six meetings for each pamphlet generally is sufficient, however, member interest may have you spending more time on a particular piece. Remember there is no rush as the Fellowship has made it clear they want quality not quantity. The review and input period deadline for Questions and Answers is 10/31/88. You have until 5/89 if necessary to review In Times of Illness and For those in Treatment. These should not be hurried as you will see they contain some delicate issues and include appeals to you to share your experience in sections that need more writing. Remember to send your input on prepared written input sheets to the World Service Office, Inc.

I guess the third reason for sharing a suggested work agenda with you is that I know what it's like to be a newly elected Area or Regional Literature Chairperson. You turn to the guidelines to see what your duties and responsibilities are only to find the guidelines leave a lot to be desired. We hope to clear this up this year and if you have thoughts and experience on what Area and Regional Literature

Committees should be doing and how to effectively do it, please jot it down. Those that come behind us need to have the benefit of our experience so they do not have to make the same mistakes. As the saying goes, the biggest room in the world is the room for improvement.

`B' & `C' WORKLISTS

Some regions have already requested assignments of `B' & `C' worklist items. At this time, under our new guidelines, our WLC evaluation committee will be going over all items in our proposal inventory files for at least the next six months. We ask you to please be patient and focus on the worklist the Fellowship gave us at WSC '88. This will be the first time in a long while that all our "raw material" will be evaluated and organized. However, if, somehow, you've completed your review of the pamphlets and guidelines and have spare time while you're waiting for the Traditions book, let us know.

WSC QUARTERLY JUNE 18TH & 19TH (THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE WILL BEGIN MEETING - JUNE 17TH 9AM)

Last year at some of the WSC quarterly meetings we had as many as 17 Regional Literature Chairpersons attending. This was impressive and we are counting on your help this year. Regional Literature Chairpersons are now general members of the World Literature Committee and to successfully put together a review form book on *It Works the Steps* along with other projects we will need their participation.

We are well aware of one problem that you have and that is funding. The June WSC quarterly will be in Miami so we hope as many of you as possible will begin saving so you can be there. I and many others have been in your situation where we want to serve and are needed, yet money is tight. Watching our members sacrifice during the *It Works* process last year was inspiring. The development of our literature is filled with tales of members pooling their resources together and traveling long distances. They did it because they cared and their heart was in trying to carry the message to the still suffering addicts. I believe it will always be like this and therefore our literature will always be special because inside of it, is us.

I'm emphasizing all this because we have two very important events where we will need you; the WSC - June quarterly in Miami and a World Literature Conference tentatively set for July 14, 15, 16 and 17th in Chicago where we as a Fellowship will factor the final master list of changes into a single review form draft of *It Works the Steps*.

If you cannot afford to participate because of finances perhaps your Regional Service Committee can be informed of our need for your services and, if money is available, assist you. Money and funding is rarely a popular subject yet our Fellowship has always responded when the need existed.

JULY WORLD LITERATURE CONFERENCE

This will be the first World Literature Conference in a long while and, if all is completed, the last for at least a year. Tentatively set for July 14, 15, 16 and 17th in Chicago we will get flyers out to you immediately as the date and location are confirmed. We will need at least 130 members to complete the task set before us. All N.A. members are welcome to participate. The format will be very similar

to the *It Works* workshops as we will be breaking into Step groups. Again we will need Area and Regional Literature Chairpersons to help guide our members through the material in the groups. I'll tell you right now I'm real anxious about this one as we will need at least 130 participating members to get the work done. We really don't have the money for a second conference of this type this year. Please do your best to get the word out and car pool (or teleport!) there. Myself and all who participated in the *It Works* process last year can tell you it is an extremely rewarding experience working on our Steps with others in a world forum atmosphere.

This should get us started. Now I see why Michael Lee's reports were so long last year. There's still a lot more to report which you'll see in the *Newslines* and Fellowship Reports so please read each one.

Finally, I've been cornered and forced to use an answering machine. I'm generally home 4 - 6 p.m. and after 10:30 p.m. EST. My phone number is (301) 744-4338. I'll be on the road more weekends as the year progresses but please call me if you need information or help in any way. I will do my best to listen to any and all concerns and make myself available. Remember that, first, I'm just an addict like yourself and, secondly, a trusted servant like you who loves and believes in Narcotics Anonymous. You can also call Danette, our WLC Coordinator, at the WSO during the day at (818) 780-3951 as she is very informed on all that's happening. Between the two of us we will get in touch with you.

Thank you for being there and I hope this is another year where we'll do together what we can't do alone.

DCVINCE/JANE