

Minutes

ARSC
Outreach Planning Meeting
January 20, 2007
3rd and Cordova

Meeting opened at 1:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

I. Those in attendance included:

Joe L.	744-4256	
Lou Ann W.	529-7399	alaskalouann@yahoo.com
Arlene L	244-6919	allene1@alaska.net
Sean C	230-5016	sean@eastside@msn.com
Bob J	242-7626	alaskabob@gci.net
Dayton B	440-8133	
Cory C	222-6366	
Lori	529-7723	lorindawahrer@yahoo.com
Christine B	278-0478	christine.bronson@thomson.com
Doug P	244-6030	Doug_poage@yahoo.com

II. **About Outreach.** Went through Part I the agenda (attached). This was a kind of crash course in outreach as drawn from the Outreach Handbook. Principally, the primary function of Outreach is to help groups overcome isolation that hinders their growth and survival. ...

III. **Alaska Outreach Challenge.** Outreach is challenged to support groups or addicts in the following communities:

- a. Rural hub communities (not on the road system) with meetings. Examples include Bethel, Ketchikan, etc;
- b. Rural hub communities (not on the road system) with no meetings. Examples include Barrow, Nome, Dillingham, etc;
- c. Road system communities without meetings. Examples include Homer, Eagle River, etc.
- d. Road system communities with meetings. Examples include Seward, Kenai, Palmer.
- e. Struggling groups in large communities, such as Soul to Soul in Anchorage. Juneau and Golden Heart could be characterized as large communities and they may have struggling groups.

Follow up: identify communities in each category.

IV. **Tools for Outreach.** The members present brainstormed for tools, which in no particular order include:

- Convention: Promote rural workshop at our convention:
 - ⇒ Staying clean in rural Alaska
 - ⇒ Working the steps long distance
- Literature – a new pamphlet – higher power in other cultures, indigenous culture
 - ⇒ Put info on schedule.
- “Visitors Bureau”
 - ⇒ Encourage addicts traveling to attend meetings while traveling
 - ⇒ Provide with literature
- Radio
 - ⇒ Anonymous public/community radio speakers
 - ⇒ Spots to announce the meetings are happening (are these “public service announcements”; and “Drug Problem? NA can Help”
 - ⇒
- Use AKNA.org. – Use the “outlying” or rural section of AKNA.org
 - ⇒ On line sales or library of speaker tapes;
 - ⇒ Regional newsletters – role model stories
 - ⇒ On-line meeting
 - ⇒ Email and snail mail pen pal.
 - ⇒ Circular nature of the steps (more indigenously relevant than linear.)
 - ⇒ Love Stories – helping one another, the right thing to do, respecting minority points of view
 - ⇒
- AFN is an opportunity --
 - ⇒ NA meetings at AFN (AA has done this)
 - ⇒ Supply schedules
 - ⇒ “Rack” card of meetings
- Cooperation without affiliation.
 - ⇒ Rigid interpretation of traditions Vs primary purpose of helping others.
- Alaskan Starter Kits.
 - ⇒ Order a starter kit, what’s it like?
- Contact the Forum
 - ⇒ Pacific Asian Forum has been doing outreach
 - ⇒ How do they do it?
- Contact community institutions
 - ⇒ PO officers
 - ⇒ Court system
 - ⇒ Tribal or City Councils
 - ⇒ Mental Health division of the Health Corporation

- Mail Out Quarterly
 - ⇒ Schedules
 - ⇒ News
- Annual Campout
 - ⇒ Valdez in 2007
- Look for native Sobriety/recovery celebrations.
- Groups sponsoring groups
 - ⇒ Group could adopt a sister group
- Send out an addict to visit remote sites. Face time works best.
- Bring in addict from rural Alaska to the convention. Face time works best.
- Email list. Mass mailer.

V. Some conclusions

While some organizational work needs to be done, some specific conclusions were drawn.

- **Outreach Liaison Assignments**
 - ⇒ Arlene assigned to Nome.
 - ⇒ Corry assigned to Barrow
 - ⇒ Dayton to put together institutional phone number list.
- Need to draft up a rough script for the PI-type contacts, and provide coaching.
- Need to develop priorities.
- Need to develop strategy to accomplish priorities.
- remarks:
 - As an addict we are strong message carrier of recovery.
 - We gotta do this together.
 - Follow thru.

Next meeting is at 3rd and Cordova at 1:30 pm on February 17.

Meeting closed at 4:00 pm.