



# California Inland Region of NA Western States Zonal Forum Report

JANUARY 16, 2019

## OUR REGION



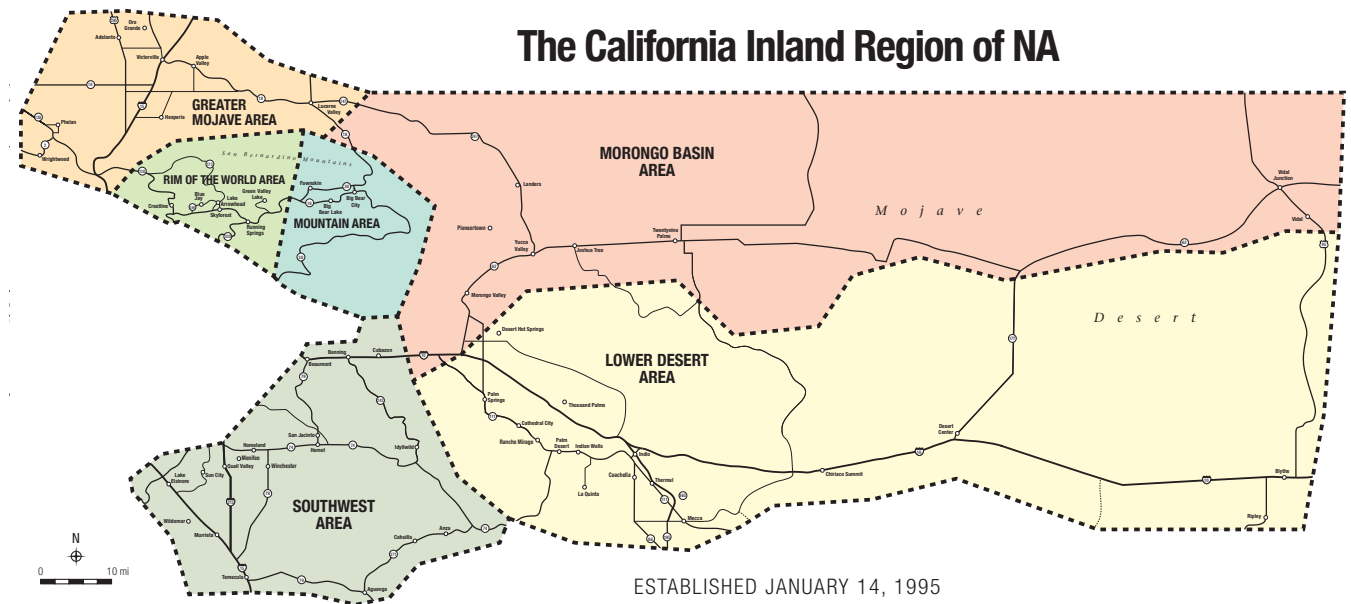
The California Inland Region of NA was formed January 14, 1995, to serve the needs of its founding Areas and their groups. Initially formed by 5 Areas from the Southern California Region, CIRNA now includes 6 member Areas, hosting roughly 212 weekly meetings.

The Areas served by CIRNA are:

1. **Greater Mojave Area** – 24 Weekly Meetings
2. **Lower Desert Area** – 75 Weekly Meetings
3. **Morongo Basin Area** – 19 Weekly Meetings
4. **Mountain Area** – 9 Weekly Meetings
5. **Rim of the World Area** – 13 Weekly Meetings
6. **Southwest Area** – 72 Weekly Meetings

## OUR GEOGRAPHY

Our Region is geographically diverse, ranging from low desert, below sea level in parts of the Coachella Valley to the high desert at 2,500 to 3,000 feet, to 6,500 feet and higher in parts of our mountainous Areas. The Region spans distances from 65 miles at its shortest to almost 200 miles at its longest. Because of the geography and distances spanned by the Region, there tend to be dense pockets of meetings in more populous and developed Areas, with fewer or no meetings in-between.



While there have been times of strong inter-Area cooperation and unity, **the size of the Region creates ongoing challenges in getting addicts to travel and participate in functions or services outside of their local Areas.**



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## OUR REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE AND OFFICE



**CIRNA'S RSC meetings rotate between the member Areas every other month.** This practice enhances unity and increases the exposure of the RSC to members within the host Areas who might not otherwise investigate service at the Regional level.

In the early years, the RSC meeting rotated between Areas monthly because there was no Regional Office. This continued until after CIRNA's first Convention when CIRNA finally had the funds to rent an economical office space at **36 W. Williams in the city of Banning,**

This has remained the Regional Office location ever since. While not particularly close to most members, **the Regional Office is one of the most central locations within our Region, and splits the burden of travel as equally as possible between the Areas.**

## OUR CONVENTION

While interest in hosting a Regional Convention began to build almost as soon as the region was formed, it took an infusion of funds from the Western States Unity Convention to provide the resources necessary to get our Regional Convention started. With \$2,000 seed money from the WSUC, CIRNA's Convention Subcommittee hosted the **Western States Unity Convention July 4-6, 1997** in Palm Springs.

After returning the seed money, **CIRCNA 1 was held the next year, July 3-5, 1998,** again in Palm Springs, which has become the de facto location for the Regional Convention. Last year the CIRCNA Convention celebrated its 20th anniversary, and our 21st Convention will be held at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert on **June 28-30th of 2019.** More details are available at [www.cirna.com](http://www.cirna.com)

Over the years, CIRNA has been relatively dependent upon the yearly Regional Convention as its **primary source of operating funds.**



**CIRCNA XXI** June 28th - 30th, 2019  
Palm Desert, California

## OUR WEB SITE

CIRNA purchased the [www.cirna.org](http://www.cirna.org) domain and established its first web site in 1996.

The current iteration of the **CIRNA web site is built in Wordpress,** and is designed to allow Areas, Area Activities Subcommittees, and others trusted servants who need to publish or edit content to safely access just those parts of the administrative portion of the site that they need to be able to update meetings, add or edit events, and more. This eliminates the need for the Webmaster to touch every piece of content that is added to the site and **empowers the Areas to directly publish their own meeting and activity content.**

On average, the CIRNA web site receives over 5,000 unique visitors per month.



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## OUR INSURANCE POLICY

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**CIRNA maintains an insurance policy for the meetings within its Areas' boundaries**, as well as coverage for 36 yearly events (6 per Area) and our Regional Convention. Our coverage includes outdoor activities, including campouts and picnics, and provides certificates of insurance for meeting locations as required. **CIRNA has an elected Insurance Officer who is the point of contact with the insurance company and coordinates insurance needs with groups and subcommittees.**

## OUR TRUSTED SERVANTS

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Five to ten years after the Region was formed, it began to be increasingly difficult to fill positions on the RSC, especially subcommittees, which would be dark or under-supported for periods of time. Eventually, **a decision was made to eliminate almost all Regional subcommittees**, with the exception of the Convention Committee.

**CIRNA created Regional Resource Officer positions for H&I, PI & Phonelines, Outreach, Activities and Literature Review** with the narrowed tasks of supporting the Area's subcommittees in their efforts and disseminating information to those subcommittees. By narrowing the scope of the positions, it was hoped that service in those capacities might be a less daunting task. While participation may have improved somewhat, **CIRNA still struggles to fill all of the Resource Officer positions on a yearly basis.**

## OUR HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS

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**Area H&I subcommittees within CIRNA provide regular panels** to several prisons, remote fire camps, jails, juvenile hall, hospitals and closed facilities. In some remote locations, H&I panels are provided to facilities that are technically within the boundaries of other Regions, such as the Puerta la Cruz Conservation Camp, which is in San Diego, but serviced by the Southwest Area H&I subcommittee.

## OUR PUBLIC INFORMATION

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CIRNA provides a booth and coordinates with Area PI subcommittees to provide a **fully staffed NA Public Information booth at the San Bernardino County Fair** in Victorville for a one week period every year. CIRNA also participates in providing a PI booth at an annual health symposium and provides the booth as a resource for Area Public Information subcommittees when needed.

## OUR SUCCESSES

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- Provide annual NA Public Information booths at the County Fair and at the health symposium
- Provide Quarterly Regional Meeting Directories
- Provide Regional web site for dissemination of meeting and event information
- Provide Insurance Policy for all meetings
- Provide Support Officers for Area subcommittees (not always consistent, but still have had some success)
- Hold a yearly Regional Convention
- Maintain Regional Office
- Fund-flow to NA World Services on a quarterly basis



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## OUR CHALLENGES

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In some ways, CIRNA's challenges are much the same as they have been since the Region was formed... The distance between two points doesn't change.

- Difficult to build unity between Areas and hold functions when getting addicts to travel outside their Areas
- Difficult to get members involved in Regional service which limits CIRNA's ability to provide greater support for the Area's, such as Regional subcommittees, etc.
- The majority of Regional expenses are paid for by income from the Regional Convention, creating a reliance on the event rather than fund-flow from the Areas
- The flow and retention of important knowledge and information to the Areas is not always effective

## OUR TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

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- CIRNA would like to know more about where and how the \$300 suggested donation to the WSZF (potentially \$3900 between all 13 member Regions) will be budgeted, used and accounted for.
- CIRNA would like to know more about the California Collaboration, including some background on when it began, what its purpose is and what its financial needs are.
- What can the WSZF do for the Region? Areas? Groups?
- What role(s) would we like to see the WSZF fulfill or what roles is the WSZF uniquely qualified to fulfill?
- What role(s) do we see the WSZF and other Zones taking at the WSC moving forward?

**Please feel free to contact us with comments, questions or suggestions.**

In fellowship and service,

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