

Florida Service Symposium
March 21-23, 2019
Tampa, Florida

Good morning,

Thank you for letting me be of service. Due to this being an off conference year the delegate team decided to split up and attend two functions outside of our normal service commitments. The RD-A attended the Multi-Zonal Service Symposium and the RD decided to attend the Florida Service Symposium. Registration was free and I was familiar with and have served with many of the members attending.

Looking at the agenda it would appear that there are three workshops for every respective time block with breaks in between. Each day ends with a banquet followed by a main meeting- there are no events on Sunday. I have set my report up to outline the workshops. I will only be able to attend one from each time block.

Thursday March 21st

- 1:00-3:00
 - a. Professionals Roundtable
 - Panel discussion consisting of a drug court judge, an addiction medicine doctor and the director of recovery services for the Florida DOC
 - Large group format where professionals shared with members their experiences (good and bad) working with NA
- 3:30-5:00
 - a. Professionals Roundtable
 - Same panel members with a small group discussion focusing on how members and professionals can mitigate some of the obstacles we face working collaboratively.

Friday March 22nd

- 9:00-10:15 AM
 - Doing cool things with the BMLT
 - An overview of the technologies currently being implemented to keep the BMLT current and up to date at all times
 - IDT- Attracting members to service
 - Meditation book
- 10:30-11:45 AM
 - Effective communication

- An overview of the best way information can make its way back to the groups through the various levels of service
 - If the groups and most importantly the members are not holding their trusted servant accountable then information is essentially useless
 - Trusted servants should be expected to relay the valuable information back to each respective level
 - NAWS—>RD—>RCM—>GSR—>Members
- IDT- carrying the NA message and making NA attractive
- PR best practices (public relations event)
- 11:45-2:00
 - Turning “IT” Over
 - A workshop on members with IT knowledge versus members with no IT knowledge and how to keep service commitments and participation continue to be uninterrupted
 - Some solutions included:
 - mentorship
 - collaborating with other areas, regions, and zones, constantly
 - asking for members to join and learn tech based service commitments,
 - having an executive member have passwords and sensitive information as well so the outgoing committee members do not take their information with them.
 - IDT-MAT/DRT
 - Virtual meetings
- 3:30-5:00
 - Website development
 - Cultural diversity
 - Future of the WSC
 - A WB presentation by WB members Tanna & Tali. Outlines information constantly updated on NA.org

After dinner the remainder of the evening was split between a Women in Service Banquet and a Men’s Rap. The last meeting of the day was a main meeting titled “History of the Basic Text”

Saturday, March 23rd

- 9:00-10:15
 - a. Convention in a Box
 - This was mostly an overview of how the FRCNA (Florida Regional Convention of NA) plans their convention.

- Subcommittee selection- Voting members are limited to two representatives from each area for each committee (12 votes for WNY)
 - FRCNA Mission Statement: We do this convention to make enough money for next years convention; not to make money.
 - FRCNA has a board of directors and they are incorporated; they receive zero funds from the region. All revenue is generated from registration. There appears to be a great amount of diversity and support from areas.
 - One board member is designated as a hotel liaison. Contracts are negotiated at least three years out. As the economy goes so does the negotiations
 - Small group, about 20 members and it appears all the members except for me were members of the FRNA
 - FRCNA 38 July 4-7, 2019 Orlando Florida.
 - Only differences I noticed were simply the Board Of Directors and the size of the convention compared to WNYRCNA
 - I asked a couple questions after the PowerPoint:
 - Fundraising? Yes-Registration drives. Each subcommittee is given \$200 seed money from FRCNA to generate excitement and revenue of course.
 - Area conventions? Yes they do- doesn't appear to be an issue with supporting the RC. One member mentioned that when money became the reason for an area convention then thats when the problems started.
- b. We Keep What We Have
- c. Phone line Volunteer training*
- 10:30-11:30
 - a. What does an RCM do?
 - Panel presentation by two RCM's
 - Each spoke for about 3 minutes and opened up the floor for Q&A- I left and attended the South East Zonal Forum instead
 - b. H&I Best Practices
 - c. Mental Health IP*
- 11:30-12:30
 - a. Meeting Etiquette*
 - b. Differences between H&I and BTW
 - c. Zonal PR
 - Wilvena G. (ENY RD, NEZF Secretary, NEZF PR AD-HOC) gave a presentation of the work we have been doing as a zone (see last months report)
 - Ramon SEZF (Southeasat zonal forum) PR Facilitator did a presentation:
 - 5 States Including Trinidad and Bermuda

- 6 Regions
- SEZF.org every second Saturday of every month at 11:30 is their open PR meeting
- Jane (NAWS PR) was spontaneously asked to discuss PR around the world:
 - EDM has a PR coordinator/committee now
 - APF has PR coordinator
 - Some of the obstacles faced with zones outside of the U.S are the different countries/governments within the respective zones.
 - China is starting to inquire about NA based on PR efforts around Asia/SE Asia.
 - China is viewed as the “final frontier in NA” there is currently not much of a presence there now but if there is, the population (one billion) indicates it would explode
- Bermuda has 35-50 members
 - The PR chair does a PR Handbook study to subcommittee members in Bermuda. She would like members outside of Bermuda to participate via ZOOM to help newer members. I gave her my email so I can forward her info if you would like to share your ESH with the Bermuda PR committee

Southeast Zonal Forum (SEZF) Meeting

- 6 regions
- There appears to be a number of AD HOCS which would be typical of the NEZF as well (fellowship development & guideline review)
- Zonal Delegate for the Zonal Workgroup reports to the zone- our delegate does not.
- Iran represents 1/3 of NA
- The WB LOVES Iran
- It was suggested by the SEZF to invite zones within the US attend the SEZF meeting at the Florida Service Symposium. Southern Zone. Autonomy Zone, Western States and NEZF are in attendance. The major topic was zonal collaboration. The Multi Zonal Service Symposium is to date the only time that the zones work together. This idea to collaborate could be achievable via ZOOM
- The Southern Zonal Forum is doing a CAR workshop in Dallas in December. They have invited neighboring regions (midwest, plains state, southeast) to attend and collaborate with the Southern Zone.

Saturday closed with a banquet followed by a Town Hall Meeting with the customary Main Meeting wrapping up the Florida Service Symposium.

This was a fulfilling commitment and I certainly believe that if this became the event we will be attending during an off conference cycle; possibly replacing MARLCNA it might benefit us to bring the RD team and the PR chair as well. My recommendation for this event is that we should

not split up the RD team due to the amount of workshops occurring concurrently (3) One of the things that really stood out for me was the SEZF always meeting at the FSS so there is always an opportunity for the RD team to observe how another zone in the United States continues to find its way.

It is my hope that when we meet in September 2019 we will be able to decide what is the best way for the RD team to get information to our region in a non conference year.

In Loving Service,

Stephen D.
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