



NA WORLD SERVICES

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April 2021 COVID-19 Statement

This is the third statement we have posted on our website related to COVID-19. The first was in April 2020. We updated that statement in November 2020, and now again in April 2021.

Events and meetings all over the world continue to be affected by mandated closures due to public health orders, with many moving to meeting online or via phone. If you are seeking information about specific NA events or meetings, the best source of information is the service committee responsible for hosting that event or meeting, or the local NA website. Local websites are listed in the window on the top left side of our Find a Meeting webpage, www.na.org/meetingsearch.

It is not our role to advise groups on how to respond to the crisis, but we have put together a webpage (www.na.org/virtual) where you can find lists of virtual meetings and resources that are being utilized by NA groups around the world, including groups that are meeting virtually, those that are considering resuming in-person meetings, and hybrid meetings.

Booklets, pamphlets, and reading cards are available online in 56 languages at www.na.org/ips, and audio versions of the Basic Text are posted for free download or streaming in English, Arabic, Hungarian, Russian, Spanish, and Thai at <https://www.na.org/?ID=bt-aud>. NA's books are available for purchase in e-formats in English (as well as Arabic, Hungarian, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish Basic Texts) from the links on www.na.org/elit.

Our Chatsworth office is not open to the public yet, but we are processing orders and responding to communications. WSO Canada, WSO India, and WSO Europe are also processing orders as they can get to them. All locations of NAWS are still physically closed to the public, and with our diminished staff resources, we are not certain when it will be possible to reopen, and when we do, whether we will be able to resume tours of the office.

The pandemic thrust World Services into a financial crisis. We had to furlough more than half of the staff at our Chatsworth office. We have been encouraging members to help support our services by committing to a monthly recurring contribution if possible www.na.org/contribute. Thank you to all who have answered the call. While our financial situation is beginning to improve slightly, almost all furloughed staff remain in that status as of April 2021. It is still going to take time and prudence to rebuild our capacities. Nonetheless, we are finding ways to get some things done at a reduced level and yet still providing a wide range of services, many of which are described in the *NAWS Update* video posted on media page: www.na.org/media. Subscribe to *NAWS News* for regular updates on our work: www.na.org/subscribe.

We encourage groups that are meeting in person or considering resuming in-person meetings to discuss options to provide safe environments for those who attend your meetings. For instance, groups may want to encourage members to wear masks and maintain social distancing. Groups may want to discontinue refreshments and also consider alternatives to “circling up” at the end of the meeting. These are all things that have come to us as best practices from groups that are trying to reopen.

Your national or local public health agencies may have specific guidance regarding meetings and gatherings. We are aware of the guidelines and recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov> and there are similar agencies in countries outside of the USA. The World Health Organization (WHO) may also be a resource <https://www.who.int>.

Over the course of the last year, NA members and groups have worked hard around the world to ensure the message is carried no matter what. Our support for one another continues to be a source of hope and optimism even with all that we are facing. Thank you for all you do for NA.

We hope that everyone will continue to be safe during these difficult times! (NA World Services, April 2021)