



Heart of Tennessee Area Outreach: Nomadic Addicts Info Packet



...that no addict anywhere need die from the horrors of addiction.

Preface

Congratulations!!! You've heard the need of surrounding groups and answered the call. Now what? Now, we go to work. You may already be thinking, "what did I get myself into?" Well, Outreach work can be deeply rewarding. More than almost any other mechanism of service, we get to contact often isolated groups, which are made up of nonetheless committed NA members. And these members are hungry—hungry for more knowledge, more recovery, more connections. Thus, gratitude pervades throughout the groups an Outreach Committee visits, and that gratitude helps build in us the kind of pride and self-worth which only comes from selfless service. So, you are doing something that will not only make a difference in the lives of those you reach out to, but through our work we ourselves are reached also. Enjoy the journey brothers and sisters.

Overview of the Program

"Nomadic Addicts" is a short-term program designed to bolster outlying groups and strengthen their NA message by creating a network of pipelines between the hub city, Murfreesboro, and those surrounding groups. The Heart of Tennessee Area (aka "HOT" Area) believes that the best way to do this is to cultivate sustaining relationships and exposure between members in and outside of Murfreesboro. That is why this program is not a one-time event. The foundation of this program is repeated exposure over time. Further, it is important that the visiting Outreach "platoons"¹ never do their work alone and never do so without some experienced NA members as a part of the team. The following characteristics define the contours of the Nomadic Addicts Program:

- The commitment is for 12 weeks of meetings. It will launch Monday, September 11th and end Sunday, December 3rd.
- Each Platoon is expected to attend at least (1) meeting per week of the same home group, preferably on the same night for consistency and simplicity.
- There should be a minimum of (3) members who compose each Platoon.²
- The members are expected to take an active role during their Outreach efforts.³
- The members are encouraged to exchange phone numbers to foster personal relationships with fellow addicts.

¹ We call it "platoon" because it reflects the unity of a team going to 'war' against the disease of addiction. Plus, this helps us visualize the Outreach team as distinguished from the group we're visiting.

² In the event one member cannot make it, two members may be the best we can do. Yet, the main goal is to make sure that no Outreach committee shows up as a committee of one. Even alone though, a platoon member is still encouraged to attend their target group.

³ Members are encouraged to actively share their experience, strength, and hope when they attend the target group. There are times when it is good to remain silent and merely be present. As a member of Outreach however, we are there on a mission: share the NA message.

- Last, and most important, have fun and fellowship with your fellow Outreach participants. Serving together means growing together.

Importance of Commitment

It cannot be stated enough the importance of following through on this commitment. Some commitments in NA might be easily cancelled or missed, like fellowshiping engagements. Others, however, should be treated with more seriousness, like agreeing to chair a meeting. Your commitment with Nomadic Addicts is of the latter variety. This program is composed of a network of almost three dozen committed members and involves reaching out to half a dozen groups around Murfreesboro. It stretches over three months of commitment consistent with our vision of repeated exposure. Most of all your Platoon-mates are counting on you. Each Platoon requires three members to be most effective. Even one missing member can make a critical difference. And, in some cases, a missing member may not be replaceable. That being said, **please take this commitment seriously**—only miss for very important events, give as much notice as possible, and follow through. This opportunity is an investment that will pay off only if we can count on each other to fulfill our commitment.

Do's and Don'ts

Executing your duties as an Outreach member requires that you keep several principles in mind. The following list of suggestions are by no means exhaustive; but they should give you some idea of the boundaries.

<i>DO</i>	Exchange phone numbers (if appropriate) with target group members	Caravan or carpool for unity and economy	Take target group members out to eat after	Arrive early and stay late to fellowship	Actively share (meetings, steps, literature, network)
<i>DON'T</i>	Interrupt meeting	Attempt to police the meeting	Poorly represent HOT Area or Outreach	Miss your commitment	Forget our primary purpose

Thanks

This project couldn't be done without the work that you and members like you sacrifice to help carry our life-saving message. You are appreciated!!!