NA e-Lit on the tablets of 45,000 potential members incarcerated in Ohio.

How it happened.

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous
nacentralohio.org
COASCNA@gmail.com
Facebook: Central Ohio Narcotics Anonymous PR
Instagram: CentralOhioNarcoticsAnonymous

Paul M, Public Relations Subcommittee Vice Chair
Short story:

Through newly established and existing relationships with professionals in the community.
Paul,
I am excited to share we have been able to successfully sign the document you provided and are ready to proceed with sharing your literature electronically with our incarcerated population. Thank you again for your advocacy and for sharing this forward. If there is anything that OHMAS or I can do to further assist, please let us know. Thank you. ~

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous, PR Subcommittee – COASCNA@gmail.com
The details:

The lockdown brought about the need, \textit{and the creative opportunities}, to let everyone know that NA was still a resource in our community.
March 2020

With help from members of NEZF and NERNA, COASCNA PR initiated virtual meetings, and hosted info sessions for our area homegroups.
April 2020

PR began informing existing and new contacts that there were locally and internationally hosted virtual meetings, meetings by phone, and that we could provide resource packets to those leaving treatment and the criminal justice setting. We did this mostly by phone calls and follow up emails.
Hello! Thanks very much for your time on the phone just now.

As I mentioned, the PR subcommittee is interested in ways we can let individuals going through the ODRC system know how they can reach NA and attend phone and/or online NA meetings.

In this time of COVID and social distancing, our presentations within correctional facilities have been put on hold. Also, our Fellowship does not currently hold face-to-face meetings. So, we are very eager to reach your clients or parole officers, etc. to let them know that NA is a still here as a valuable and proven community resource for anyone who wants to attend our meetings.

Our PR subcommittee would be happy to have a conference call or virtual meeting to discuss options with whoever at ODRC you believe is appropriate.

Thanks again for your time,
Paul

P.S. As you mentioned, I will call you back if I do not receive a response from you to this email, in case the email does not make it to you.
May 2020

PR and H&I began attending the NEZF PR meetings to help organize a Criminal Justice Professionals Day in late September 2020

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous, PR Subcommittee – COASCNA@gmail.com
June - August 2020

Our H&I focused on getting back into local facilities

PR began spreading the word to professionals about the upcoming Conference.

- Criminal Justice professionals at ODRC
- OSU Criminal Justice Research Center
- Recovery Ohio (a State of Ohio initiative)
- Ohio Dept of Mental Health & Addiction Services
- and many, many others!

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous, PR Subcommittee – COASCNA@gmail.com
From: JS (Bureau of Correctional Recovery Services)  
Date: July 15, 2020 at 3:31:17 PM EDT  
To: "cbusnapaulm@gmail.com"  
Subject: FW: Central Ohio Narcotics Anonymous - Professionals Day conference  

Paul,

I received the below emails concerning the NA Professionals Day conference. Our area of OhioMHAS Recovery Services provides Substance Use Disorder treatment and programs inside DRC facilities, have been a facilitator of Narcotics Anonymous meetings for the population and would be very interested in attending and being a support as best we can for the Professionals Day. Some of my staff have been in contact with COANA and other fellowships lately and we are interested in discovering how we could bring meetings in virtually.

If you could let us know more details as you have them then I would love to have my staff participate so we could expand this area of services.

Thank you,
How did JS get the info about the Professionals Day Conference? We didn’t send it to him.
From: JC (Holistic Services, ODRC)  
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:49 PM  
To: KS (ODRC); JS (OHMAS / Correctional Recovery Services)  
Subject: Fw: Central Ohio Narcotics Anonymous - Professionals Day conference

From: MA (ODRC)  
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:31 AM  
To: JC (Holistic Services, ODRC)  
Subject: Fw: Central Ohio Narcotics Anonymous - Professionals Day conference

Fyi

From: Paul M <cbusnapaulm@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 8:04 PM  
To: MA (ODRC)  
Subject: Central Ohio Narcotics Anonymous - Professionals Day conference

I hope this finds you well and happy.

I am on a planning committee for a "Professionals Day" where we will have wardens, government officials from criminal justice, and others speak on a panel. All of them have current or recent direct experience with bringing NA to their facilities by virtual platforms (like Zoom) or by conference call.

We invite any and all who wish to learn more about how our program helps them and their clients in the criminal justice setting. Our panel members will come from Ohio, New Jersey, Arizona and California, among others.

Although we have not settled on a date yet, it will most likely be in September 2020 or in mid-January of 2021. I just wanted to give you advanced notice before our official invitation goes out.

Best wishes, and be well,
Paul M
Public Relations Chairperson
Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous
JS and about 8 other Criminal Justice Professionals from Ohio attended the NEZF Professionals Day Conference in late September 2020. One of our Area’s Drug Court coordinators was a presenter at the Conference.

During the conference brainstorming sessions, COASCNA PR learned about the potential to electronically push e-Lit to the incarcerated.
Thus began our quest:

How to make NA literature, free to read and download from https://www.na.org/?ID=ips-eng-index,

available on the inside.

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous, PR Subcommittee – COASCNA@gmail.com
1. Contacted NAWS to gather information.

Many thanks to Jane N, NAWS PR manager, for connecting us with Dodie in Sarasota, FL and who did this in their county jails.

2. Picked Dodie’s brain.
The Copyright Permissions letter that Sarasota Sheriff’s Office needed to get signed by NAWS.
The letter that our Area PR drafted for Ohio’s ODRC and OhioMas.
From: Paul M (Public Relations)
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 5:28 PM
To: AS (Recovery Ohio)
Subject: Draft letter for Director Chambers-Smith, and info on Central OH Narcotics Anonymous

Thanks so much for your time today. As promised, attached is a pdf of a draft letter for Director Chambers-Smith. At the end of this email I pasted the text of the letter for reference.

I'm also including the website address and the handles for Central Ohio NA's social media accounts, which have posts about our website stats.

All of the accounts also have history on the type of community outreach we do such as tabling at the African-American Male Wellness Walk; presentations to med schools and nursing schools; media outreach to The Dispatch; participation in last year’s Gay Pride Parade; and awareness campaigns such as billboards and placements in the Comfest program.

Thanks again for your time, and for any assistance that you can offer!

Best,
Paul
From: JC (ODRC)
Sent: Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:08 PM
To: AS (Recovery Ohio)
Cc: KS (ODRC)
Subject: Re: Draft letter for Director Chambers-Smith, and info on Central OH Narcotics Anonymous

It was great talking to you this past week. I have briefed Director Chambers-Smith on our conversation and the NA proposal. She is ok with the concept, there are just a lot of questions operationally that would have to be explored. We are funneling the proposal into the Recovery Ohio Criminal Justice committee and KS (ODRC) has been briefed. Director Chambers-Smith wanted OHMHAS/JS to review for content and utilization, in addition to IT and others. Kelly will be reaching out to NA to open a dialogue and explore further.

Thanks again and take care,
Recovery Ohio (AS)

OhioMAS - Mental Health and Addiction Services (JS)

ODRC - OH Dept of Rehabilitation & Corrections (MA & KS)

Franklin Co. Drug Court (MC presented at the CJ conference)

Colleges of Social Work & Medicine (which send students to observe open meetings, and where we make presentations)

Others (Clergy, ADAMHs, Ohio Dept of Health)

Media

OSU Criminal Justice Research Center
From: KS (ODRC)
Date: January 25, 2021 at 11:21:37 AM EST
To: Paul M, JS (OHMAS)
Subject: Executed Signature Page

Paul,
I am excited to share we have been able to successfully sign the document you provided and are ready to proceed with sharing your literature electronically with our incarcerated population. Thank you again for your advocacy and for sharing this forward. If there is anything that OHMAS or I can do to further assist, please let us know. Thank you. ~
1. Know what you want to do, like virtual meetings, discharge packets, etc., but be open to new possibilities (like e-Literature!).

2. Do an inventory:
   a) Who do we a strong relationship with?
   b) Who else would be supportive in our efforts?
   c) Ask them to join the endeavor. Create a partnership with them. Learn where they are coming from.
   e) What homework do we need to do?

3. Ask your contacts for introductions to people you want to meet.

4. Do cold calls, followed up by emails. Or vice-versa.

5. Follow up regularly with your contacts. Tell them something that NA is doing locally or nationally; keep them in the know that we are still here, addicts helping addicts get clean.
Find out who supplies your tablets. This is the link to facilities with tablets from GTL:
https://web.connectnetwork.com/facilities-list/
There are other tablet manufacturers, but for the time being we are focusing on GTL since we how the process works with them. We have not yet tried to work with Jpay tablets, the other major tablet provider.

Our next goal is to get e-Literature on the tablets of incarcerated youth in the Department of Youth Services.
PR ❤️ H&I

Our unity resulted in FREE e-literature to 85,000 people in prisons and jails.
This is how we did it!

Sunday, May 30th, 12pm - 2pm PST
(3pm - 5pm EST)
Zoom ID 861 4255 8490, pwd 1953

How did Trusted Servants from Florida, Ohio & Arizona work with Criminal Justice personnel, state government, Narcotics Anonymous World Services, and each other to provide FREE NA e-literature to 85,000 potential members experiencing incarceration?

Join us - we’ll explain who we contacted, what barriers we faced, who were our allies & champions, and how the literature got on the tablets. There will be plenty of time for Q&A. A recording and resource packet will be made available to the Fellowship.

NAeLit2021@gmail.com

Contribute to NAWS here!
NA.org
NA e-Lit on the tablets of 45,000 potential members incarcerated in Ohio.

Questions?

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Paul M, Public Relations Subcommittee Vice Chair

Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous, PR Subcommittee