The WSC of the Future Project, approved at the 2018 World Service Conference, was charged with three main goals:

1. Build a shared understanding of what is an effective and sustainable WSC.
2. Strengthen collaboration among zonal forums and between NAWS and zonal forums.
3. Collect and share best practices of zonal forums.

Instead of the Board selecting participants for this project, the 15 zonal forums and Iran chose a participant to serve on the workgroup. This was the first time the Board used this kind of collaborative and collective approach, and it was also the largest and most diverse World Services workgroup ever assembled. To make the best use of time and resources, participants broke into three task teams and held regular virtual meetings between two face-to-face workgroup meetings during the fiscal year.

Some of the results of the project include:

- Virtual Meeting of Zones: An informal way for participants from zones to come together online to share best practices and explore possible ways to collaborate. This meeting will happen three times a year.
- Zonal Report Form: An opportunity for zones to report to the WSC, which will result in a Zonal Snapshots tool providing a picture of each zone.
- Zonal Self-assessment Workshop: Designed to help zones reflect on their development and how to best meet their needs (posted at www.na.org/future).
- GWSNA Update Recommendations: Focused on better describing current practices, including that the WSC is more than a biennial event because its work continues throughout the cycle, and expanding references to communication and collaboration to include web meetings and email communication. These recommendations were included in the suggested GWSNA revisions in the 2020 Conference Approval Track (CAT) material.
- Ongoing Discussions: Centered on what an effective and sustainable WSC is and what that means in relationship to the WSC Mission.
- WSC Evaluation Tool: If a sustainable WSC is one that has the resources and ability to achieve its mission, an evaluation tool could clarify the qualities needed by the WSC and measure how effectively the WSC carries out its work. We hope to have some form of evaluation of the 2020 WSC.

Additionally, Motion 15—approved at the 2018 WSC—called for the World Board to develop a project plan “for presentation at WSC 2020 on the role of zones, their relationship to the wider fellowship, including integrating zonal delegate participation into the decision-making process at WSC.” Throughout its work, the WSC of the Future Workgroup identified potential input to this project plan and forwarded recommendations to the Board in its final report. The project plan will be included in the 2020 Conference Approval Track material.
SPAD

Work on the Spiritual Principle a Day (SPAD) Book Project got into full swing at the start of fiscal year 2019, as we started to implement the project plan passed at WSC 2018. The plan and subsequent work reflect the priorities and interests of members as expressed in the 2016 CAR literature survey and a follow-up survey focused on shaping the plan. In accordance with the Fellowship’s guidance, we have begun to compile a book that reflects members’ experience and voice, with true-to-life scenarios that can be a useful recovery tool.

We started this task by creating tools to support a Fellowship-wide writing effort and gathering material that reflects our shared experience. Through this process, we collected over 2,200 pieces of advance material from members within the FY. Thank you for your willingness to participate. With your help, the book is starting to take shape.

The workgroup met face-to-face twice during the 2019 FY with many virtual meetings in between. As you can imagine, it takes a lot of effort to collect, organize, read, and integrate material for this project, but our dedicated workgroup is up to the task. We aim to ensure that the book we’re compiling meets the Fellowship’s needs and expectations. To that end, during the 2019 FY, the SPAD workgroup has:

- Rolled out 45 spiritual principles with 270 related quotations to date
- Processed writing from members from around the world
- Developed entries by weaving together members’ writing
- Distributed the first batch of review and input (R&I) drafts

Please visit www.na.org/spad for project updates, workshop materials, and additional batches of R&I drafts. Also, members can submit their writing in any language, electronically or handwritten, so please encourage people in your NA community to host workshops, large or small. There are many approaches to generating submissions, including individual members writing on their own or with their sponsorship family, home group, or service body. Apart from this being a uniquely gratifying experience for our members, continued Fellowship participation also helps to ensure the best book possible.

Mental Health/Mental Illness IP

The Mental Health/Mental Illness IP sprang from two sources: the 2016 CAR survey; and the passage of Motion 3 from the 2016 CAR, which called for the Board to develop a project plan to create an informational pamphlet specifically about mental illness and recovery. We started this process by gathering thoughts from the Fellowship with a survey open to any interested member. Not only did these responses help shape the project plan approved by WSC 2018, but these 794 pieces of input also became the initial source material for the project.

The World Board assembled a workgroup that met face-to-face in September 2018, and for the first time, they formed an additional online focus group for members with fewer than five years clean who were interested in participating. Both groups contributed to the draft posted online for 90-day review and input, and we were thrilled to have received 498 responses from throughout the US and 15 other countries. The workgroup met again in June 2019, to consider the Fellowship’s input and to develop the approval draft of the IP.

The IP has topic headings to assist members who have specific concerns. Some ideas about mental health conditions in recovery are reiterated throughout the piece, as we believe it is helpful to illustrate their significance. As an example, we thought that experience with maintaining one’s recovery and mental health well-being is important, so it is mentioned a few times. To support the experience in this IP, we have included quotes from members and quotes from the Basic Text, It Works: How and Why, Living Clean, Just for Today, In Times of Illness, and Guiding Principles.

We are pleased and grateful to present this IP for the Fellowship’s consideration, which you can find in the 2020 Conference Agenda Report, in Addendum A.
**FIPT Operational Rules and Bulletins Workgroup**

The sole object and purpose of the Trust is to hold and administer all recovery literature and other intellectual properties of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in a manner that will help addicts find recovery from the disease of addiction and carry that message of recovery to the addict who still suffers, in keeping with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of NA.

*FIPT, Article I, Section 4*

The *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)* is a legal document that addresses the need to protect NA’s property so that the Fellowship of NA can continue to own its own materials. The *FIPT* details how NA’s name, trademarks, and recovery literature are protected and administered by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. so that NA can ensure these materials are available to fulfill our primary purpose.

In 2017, an NA region made a request to inspect the property of the Trust. The inspection, which was the first of its kind, took place in May 2018, and it raised some questions for us about the inspection process as it is described in the Operational Rules of the *FIPT*. We talked with Conference participants about revisions we believed were necessary to update the section of the Operational Rules that describes how an inspection of the Trust can be performed.

With consensus support, the Conference decided that a change was needed to Operational Rules, Article V, Section 3: Inspection of Trustee Activities. Also, with consensus support, the Conference decided to suspend this inspection clause until the close of WSC 2020 so that a decision could be made about how to handle inspections in the future. The WSC agreed to the creation of the *FIPT* Operational Rules and Bulletins Workgroup, a virtual workgroup that met throughout the 2018–2020 Conference cycle.

The workgroup offered a series of recommendations that the Board discussed at several meetings. The Board discussed the workgroup’s recommendations with Conference participants during the August 2019 CP web meeting and posted the recommendations on [www.na.org](http://www.na.org). After that meeting the Board made some nonsubstantive wording changes suggested by our intellectual property attorney and then discussed the recommendations with participants again during the October 2019 CP web meeting. The result is the three motions related to the *FIPT* contained in the Conference Agenda Report. Motion #3 proposes changes to the *FIPT* Operational Rules; Motion #4 proposes changes to *Intellectual Property Bulletin #1*, more commonly referred to as the US Policy; and Motion #5 would initiate the process to revise the *FIPT* itself in the future.

You can find current versions of all *FIPT*-related documents as well as the May 2018 Inspection Report at [www.na.org/fipt](http://www.na.org/fipt).

---

**Local Service Toolbox**

The Local Service Toolbox Project produces service tools that reflect our Fellowship’s best practices and experiences in delivering services locally. It was approved at WSC 2016 as part of the Service Tools project plan and again at WSC 2018 as part of the Training and Tools project plan.

 Rather than forming a workgroup for this project, we hold online meetings that are open to any member who wants to be involved. We then use input from these online meetings to create drafts of the service tools. In the previous 2018 fiscal year, we completed the *Consensus-Based Decision Making Basics*, a copy of which can be found on the Local Service Toolbox page here: [www.na.org/toolbox](http://www.na.org/toolbox). In August 2019, shortly after the close of the 2019 FY, we completed the *Serving NA in Rural & Isolated Communities* service tool, which you can also find on the Local Service Toolbox webpage.

While the *Serving NA in Rural & Isolated Communities* service tool was in the approval process, we started work on GSR Basics, and we are looking forward to making that tool available for 90-day review and input. We continue to be inspired by the engagement of interested NA
members in this process, and we are excited to continue to produce these local service tools with a diverse group of recovering addicts. We thank all the members who have participated in this project for their dedication and insightful input. If you would like to participate in this project, or you would like to receive more information and project updates, please email toolbox@na.org to be added to the email list.

Ongoing Workgroups

In addition to project plans, the Conference assigns NAWS a variety of ongoing work, including publishing periodicals like The NA Way and Reaching Out. Each of the following tasks consists of a workgroup with a World Board member, and most of them meet virtually.

Audit Committee: In compliance with legal requirements for nonprofits, NAWS has an Audit Committee. This workgroup operates on behalf of the Board and independently of NAWS management. Comparing our internal reports to those of the auditor confirms the validity of our accounting and financial reporting. This impartial verification serves as an affirmation of our accounting and financial reporting.

Business Plan Workgroup: This workgroup focuses on the routine business operations of NAWS and makes recommendations to the Board on business matters. Additionally, as required by law, a portion of this group fulfills the audit committee function.

Delegates Sharing: This workgroup focuses on fostering unity, familiarity, and understanding among delegates. The workgroup implements a Conference session for attendees to share their experiences in more personal, small-group discussions and also coordinates workshops for the Unity Day held the day before the Conference opens. One hope is that the Delegates Sharing session helps everyone move through the Conference week with a greater appreciation for their peers and a sense of camaraderie and unity.

Reaching Out: NAWS’ PR department handles the newsletter, Reaching Out, which is designed to help incarcerated addicts connect to the NA program of recovery, enhance HRI efforts, and offer experience from members who successfully transition from the “inside” to be productive members of society. Currently, Reaching Out has over 28,000 subscriptions.

The NA Way Magazine: This journal is dedicated to the celebration of our message of recovery. We aim to provide each member with recovery and service information, as well as recovery-related entertainment, current issues,
and events relevant to each of our members worldwide. All material comes from NA members, and we accept submissions in the same languages in which we publish The NA Way: English, Farsi, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. The NA Way is in its 37th year and currently has over 40,000 subscribers.

Issue Discussion Topics

An Issue Discussion Topic (IDT) is a subject that recovering addicts throughout the world focus on in workshops during a two-year Conference cycle. Each new cycle ushers in new IDTs for members to discuss. For the last two Conference cycles, the Conference Agenda Report included a survey that enables members to participate in prioritizing the issues most relevant to them. Ultimately, IDTs encourage us to think more deeply about relevant topics and help build unity within our groups and service bodies.

The World Board encourages attendees to email pictures of notes and other input directly to the Board at worldboard@na.org. This inclusive approach enables more members than ever before to help inform the direction of Fellowship resources and services that result from this process. Below, you’ll find a summary of the three topics explored in the 2019 fiscal year. We will include a complete overview of IDT input in the Conference Report, which is published shortly before each WSC. You can find resources to support IDT workshops in a variety of languages at www.na.org/idt.

DRT/MAT

After notifying the 2018 WSC that there would likely be a third IDT added for the 2018-2020 Conference cycle, we decided to add Drug Replacement Therapy/Medication-Assisted Treatment (DRT/MAT) as It Relates to NA during our June 2018 Board meeting. For this topic, we have received input from 20 events in four different countries, including WCNA 37. The issue of addicts attending NA meetings while on DRT/MAT and the ability of groups to make them feel welcome has become increasingly pressing for many NA groups.

Not only was this identified as having a high impact in the 2016–2018 NAWS Strategic Plan, but it was also the subject of a regional motion in the 2018 CAR:

**Motion 9:** To direct the World Board to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to create or revise one piece of recovery literature to directly address Drug Replacement Therapy (DRT) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as it relates to NA.

**Intent:** To begin the discussion on how to address DRT/MAT in a piece of recovery literature as it relates to our message and program and have a unified fellowship position.

During a web meeting in July 2018, Conference participants helped to frame the discussion aiming to gather input, raise awareness among members, and encourage dialogue within the Fellowship about how NA members and groups respond to and welcome addicts on DRT/MAT. We hoped the input from this IDT would help shape the project plan called for in Motion 9, and this has been partially successful. We received many ideas about how we can better welcome members and potential members. Most notably, these ideas were consistent regardless of the workshop location. The main ideas shared are:

- Welcome addicts who are attending NA while on DRT/MAT. They are still NA members, and we should treat them like any other member.
- Connect members on DRT/MAT with others who had the same experience and achieved abstinence.
- Consider developing consistent language in the form of a statement that can be included in meeting formats.

What we have not heard is the input that helps us frame a piece of Fellowship-approved literature about this issue. Unless the Conference can provide us with other
directions, we will propose that we frame an additional discussion about this topic for the 2020–2022 Conference cycle that seeks to gather the needed input.

**Attracting Members to Service**

This IDT addresses a lack of human resources, a long-standing challenge that many NA communities face. For this topic, we have received input from 19 events in four different countries, including WCNA 37. The discussion session outline for this topic focuses on sharing information and best practices to help find potential ways to increase participation in service. The introduction includes a brief overview of our service system structure, followed by encouraging participants to imagine what NA would look like without service. Unsurprisingly, all the responses address the critical role of service within NA, and how without service, there would be no NA.

As participants have shared about the personal benefits of service, common themes have emerged, including spiritual growth, increased knowledge, and a greater sense of connection. Similarly, when asked about what changes could be made to attract more members to service, particularly underrepresented populations, members again seem to be on the same page. They have offered responses that included ideas about inclusivity, personal behavior, and a focus on our primary purpose.

**Carrying the Message and Making NA Attractive**

This topic examines the foundation of NA and our primary purpose—better carrying the message and welcoming any addict who comes to a meeting. For this IDT, we have received input from 19 events in seven different countries, including WCNA 37. The session outline begins with a large group discussion, asking members to reflect on their personal experience of being welcomed into NA, be it positive or negative. Members then share their experiences intending to put themselves in the shoes of the newcomer.

Responses to the questions from the small group discussions have shown that members have a clear understanding of what the NA message is. Also, members have presented a variety of ways to demonstrate a commitment to carrying the message. To that end, much of the input mentions specific actions, including sharing positively, working the Twelfth Step, and actively supporting groups and group support forums. Participants have also discussed the importance of regular group inventories and workshops to help train and mentor newer members.

Members have examined how carrying the message can be a way to increase unity within NA and help create a supportive environment that will encourage newcomers to stay. Comparatively, participants have also seen a commitment to carrying the message as a path to improve society’s perception of NA as a viable program of recovery. Ideas for ways to welcome newcomers include having a greeter at the meeting and offering phone numbers to new members so we can meet them “where they’re at.” The most important idea discussed, however, was remembering to welcome every addict, “regardless of . . . .”