

Regional Committee Member Report

Minnesota Regional Service Conference

Area Information:

Area Name: South Suburban Fireside Area Date: August 13, 2011

Area Mailing Address: P.O. Box 241893, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Street Address City/Town State Zip Code

RCM Name: Melissa W. Phone: (651)675-8985 Phone/email: smwinks77@gmail.com

RCM Name: _____ Phone: () _____ Phone/email: _____

How many meetings are there in your area? 17

How many meetings participate in your Area Service Meeting? 10 (approximately)

Do you have a current meeting list? X Yes No (if yes, please attach)

Is your area financially stable? X Yes No (if no, please comment below)

Will you be passing on a donation to the region on behalf of your area? Yes X No

If yes, please enter the amount of the donation \$ _____

Please mark the active subcommittees in your area:

 X Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) X Public Information (PI) Executive Committee

 X Activities/Fundraising X Outreach X Literature

 Policy Helpline/Phoneline Other: _____

Ad hoc: _____ Ad hoc: _____

Comments/Current Issues/Concerns/Questions/Problems:

When the discussion of the service structure came up in open topic there were several opinions about it and some questions and concerns. Some of the questions raised were 1. How is separating areas by county promoting NA unity? 2. How will "renaming" our area & region meetings help get more people to do service? Our area is very interested in having the RD come and give training on the new service structure.

(Continue on back of form if necessary)

Upcoming Area Functions:

Name of Function Date/Time Location Contact/Phone

Tubing! August 20 @ 11am – Welch Mill Canoeing & Tubing 26389 Cty 7 Blvd, Welch – Tim B. 651-399-5799

Name of Function Date/Time Location Contact/Phone

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Fellowship Services Team Report – August 13, 2011

Bridging the Gap – We now have over 100 volunteer's spread throughout our state and region, a great accomplishment for a relatively short amount of time since we've started BTG. We must increase the awareness and the number of volunteer's in all areas, especially the smaller communities and meetings in remote proximity where professionals and newcomers will need our help. Our hope is that every qualified potential volunteer at least hears about and fully understands the importance of this meaningful endeavor, increasing the volunteer base and furthering our primary purpose, helping the addict who still suffers. We will be handing out a list with the current amount of volunteers in certain cities along with a simple flyer explaining the program again to recovering addicts.

On the professionals side of things we have 64 working emails that we will be utilizing by sending out information to these professionals. We will also be printing off post cards for a mailing to the other professionals we don't have email addresses for. Our intention is to get our name out there so that professionals will start using our program. We will be sending someone from the BTG group to an upcoming event that will help get our name out there to soon to be released prisoners. Along with giving them our information we will be handing out business cards and informational pamphlets.

The structure of the program is still working the kinks out but overall things have been working well. We've had a few bridges so far and the struggle is getting feedback from both parties about the interaction. As this ball gets rolling down the hill faster we will start to learn the best practices and procedures to use for the future. We also talking discussed what roles will eventually need to be filled and if this is something that should be handled possible at an area level rather than regional.

One suggestion that came up during our conference call was to ask the region if we could get three ways to sign up for BTG printed on all of our meetings lists and other PR literature to help get the word out there.

Our next conference call is tentatively set for August 16th at 7:00 pm.

Pride Festival 2011 – With this being my first year as the project manager I learned a lot of things, what to do next year and what to improve on. We have more than enough volunteers come out of the woodwork at the last minute and it was encouraging to see so many people willing to give back to the program in the form of service work. I was impressed with the level of enthusiasm the volunteers had for set up and break down when I was present. I did send out a post festival survey asking for feedback and the most common response I received was that there were too many volunteers at the booth at one time. So with that information I've proposed that next year we only schedule two people per shift with one back up on call if case they are needed. I've also sent all of the documentation I gathered for this event to the region so they can post it in the archives for the next project manager to use. Another thing to note is that we did not get very many people signed up for the monthly meeting list and I feel that was due to a lack of direction from me to the volunteers. Now that I am familiar with how the process goes I would be better equipped to pass that information along to the project manager for next year – I also made note of it in the "Table Guidelines" document that can be found in the archives.