

# IOWA REGION OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

A plan to create discussion and research the feasibility of a 800 # for the  
Iowa Region.

## Project Idea: To Research options for 800 # for the Iowa Region of NA:

### 1. Project Purpose:

- Dubuque Area (DANA) proposed researching options available to the Iowa Region for 800 #.
- The proposal was agreed upon w/ Mark F. volunteering and accepted to be the point of accountability for this project.

### 2. Project Findings:

- Initially services were contacted on what was available for us.
- This led to a lot of frustration as they were only interested in a sale not providing quotes.
- Discussion on this was tabled at the November meeting of the Iowa Region PI Sub-Committee Meeting due to time constraints.
- After the November/ Fall Meeting research was conducted through emails and phone calls to the Minnesota & Wisconsin Regions, and to Clean & Free Area right here in good old Iowa!
- The following information was found:
- **Minnesota Region uses Phone.com at a cost of \$105 a month/12 x \$105=\$1,260/yr**
- **Wisconsin Region uses Halloo.com at a cost of \$195 a month/12x\$195=\$2,340/yr**
- **Clean & Free Area uses Answer Plus for a cost of \$80 a month/12x \$80=\$960/yr**
- **Skype also has a service that is priced @ \$350 a year**
- The plans that have been viewed are similar to cell phone plans and vary in price for minutes needed.
- If this project is approved to continue we need to find out if we start low on minutes can we upgrade plan at no charge.

### 3. Project Benefits:

- More members in our region would have the opportunity to carry the message to the addicts who still suffers.
- Be more responsible stewards of the fellowship's resources- both financial and human.
- Provide accurate meeting information to the public and addicts seeking NA.
- Provide a larger scale of communication to the addict who still suffers to find NA and an addict to talk with.

- TO unify all Areas of the Iowa Region in strengthening of this PR tool.

#### **4. Project Volunteers & Training/Orientation:**

- The role of the volunteer is the most crucial aspect of this project as in many cases they will be the first contact the addict will have with Narcotics Anonymous.
- If this project continues a detailed training/orientation packet will be created and utilized for volunteers.
- It is suggested that volunteers be available for 8 3 hour shifts each day. We are busy people thanks to NA and our recovery, by splitting the day into shifts volunteers can sign up for as long as they chose. (i.e., one shifts a week, numerous shifts a week, etc.)

#### **5. Constraints:**

- Need Region approval of this project to continue research.
- Need to train and have the minimum of committed volunteers for service.
- Need to know what happens to the Area phone lines already in exist.
- **This project, if approved would take a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of 18 months to implement**

#### **6. Risks:**

- The biggest risk of this project is change.

#### **7. Long Term Goals:**

1. To implement a reliable service for an 800 # that connects all areas of the Iowa Region to help the addict "in need."
2. To implement and train volunteers to answer calls appropriately.
3. To develop a "Contact list" & provide training to volunteers interested in answering 12 Step calls or giving an addict a ride to a meeting.
4. To develop guidelines for the phone service to be available to all members.

#### **8. Financial Impact:**

- At this time there is no financial impact from this project.
- Financial needs will enter into this project in the form of monies for copies if and when training of volunteers begins. (This would be in the form of reimbursement.)
- Financial needs will also be needed in securing a service for the Iowa Region.

#### **9. Communication:**

- **This is most important of all the levels of this project.**
- **Communication will be through emails, phone calls and reports to the Iowa Region PR Committee and Service Committee.**
- **If this project is approved communication will continue with volunteers and the Coordinator and Co-Coordinator through the use of video conferencing and conference calls.**

**800# Time Frame**

<b><u>Project</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Beginning Date</u></b>	<b><u>Ending Date</u></b>
Research options available for 800 # for the Iowa Region of NA-Made By Dubuque Area.	Mark F. volunteered to oversee this research.	August , 2010	February 19, 2011
Research options available for 800 # for the Iowa Region of NA-Made By Dubuque Area.	Discussion Tabled at Fall PI Meeting due to time constraints & no solid answers.	August, 2010	November, 2010
Research options available for 800 # for the Iowa Region of NA-Made By Dubuque Area.	Mark F. contacted the Minnesota and Wisconsin Regions to discuss their services; Clean & Free Area also was contacted on their service.	December, 2010- January, 2011	February, 2011
Narrow down service options:	Discussed in work group at June IRSC. Decided on Phone.com plan of 600 minutes for \$24.88/month plus fees. Also discussed getting a contract to review and developing volunteer orientation.	June-August 2011	

