

## SUNDAY

**6:00PM Miracle Workers Group**, Saint James Mem. Church, 714 Winn St., Alexandria, LA, 71301 (O,D,WC,NS)

**7:00PM Clean and Serene Group**, River City's Club House, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (O,D,JT,WC,NS)

## MONDAY

**7:00PM The Serenity Sisters**, River City Clubhouse, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (C,O,D,To,W,WC,NS)

## TUESDAY

**NOON New Life Group**, Champion Recovery Clubhouse, 2403 Harris Street, Alexandria, LA, 71301 (O,SD,WC,BK,NS)

**7:00PM Talking Heads Group**, River City's Club House, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (O,D,WC,NS)

## WEDNESDAY

**7:00PM Jones Street Group**, River City clubhouse, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (O,D,WC,NS)

## THURSDAY

**7:00PM No Matter What Group**, River City's Club House, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (O,D,WC,NS)

## FRIDAY

**7:00PM Talking Heads Group**, River City's Club House, 3623 Lee St., Alexandria, LA, 71302 (O,D,WC,NS)

## SATURDAY

**NOON New Life Group**, Chaption Recovery Clubhouse, 2403 Harris Street, Alexandria, LA, 71301 (O,B,SD,WC,NS)

**6:00PM New Life Group**, Champion Recovery Clubhouse, 2403 Harris Street, Alexandria, LA, 71301 (O,D,WC,NS)

## Meeting Format Legend

B	Beginners	BK	Book Study
C	Closed	D	Discussion
JT	Just for Today	NS	No Smoking
O	Open	SD	Speaker/Discussion
To	Topic	W	Women
WC	Wheelchair		

### Who Is an Addict?

Most of us do not have to think twice about this question We know! Our whole life and thinking was centered in drugs in one form or another—the getting and using and finding ways and means to get more. We lived to use and used to live. Very simply, an addict is a man or woman whose life is controlled by drugs. We are people in the grip of a continuing and progressive illness whose ends are always the same: jails, institutions, and death.

### What Is the NA Program?

NA is a nonprofit fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. This is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs.

There is only one requirement for membership, the desire to stop using. We suggest that you keep an open mind and give yourself a break. Our program is a set of principles written so simply that we can follow them in our daily lives. The most important thing about them is that they work. There are no strings attached to NA. We are not affiliated with any other organizations. We have no initiation fees or dues, no pledges to sign, no promises to make to anyone. We are not connected with any political, religious, or law enforcement groups, and are under no surveillance at any time. Anyone may join us regardless of age, race, sexual identity, creed, religion, or lack of religion.

We are not interested in what or how much you used or who your connections were, what you have done in the past, how much or how little you have, but only in what you want to do about your problem and how we can help. The newcomer is the most important person at any meeting, because we can only keep what we have by giving it away. We have learned from our group experience that those who keep coming to our meetings regularly stay clean.

### Why Are We Here?

Before coming to the Fellowship of NA, we could not manage our own lives. We could not live and enjoy life as other people do. We had to have something

different and we thought we had found it in drugs. We placed their use ahead of the welfare of our families, our wives, husbands, and our children. We had to have drugs at all costs. We did many people great harm but most of all we harmed ourselves. Through our inability to accept personal responsibilities we were actually creating our own problems. We seemed to be incapable of facing life on its own terms.

Most of us realized that in our addiction we were slowly committing suicide, but addiction is such a cunning enemy of life that we had lost the power to do anything about it. Many of us ended up in jail or sought help through medicine, religion, and psychiatry. None of these methods was sufficient for us. Our disease always resurfaced or continued to progress until in desperation we sought help from each other in Narcotics Anonymous.

After coming to NA, we realized we were sick people. We suffered from a disease from which there is no known cure. It can, however, be arrested at some point and recovery is then possible.

### How It Works

If you want what we have to offer, and are willing to make the effort to get it, then you are ready to take certain steps. These are the principles that made our recovery possible:

1. We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction, that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. We made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to

practice these principles in all our affairs.

This sounds like a big order, and we can't do it all at once. We didn't become addicted in one day, so remember—easy does it.

There is one thing more than anything else that will defeat us in our recovery; this is an attitude of indifference or intolerance toward spiritual principles. Three of these that are indispensable are honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness. With these we are well on our way.

We feel that our approach to the disease of addiction is completely realistic, for the therapeutic value of one addict helping another is without parallel. We feel that our way is practical, for one addict can best understand and help another addict. We believe that the sooner we face our problems within our society, in everyday living, just that much faster do we become acceptable, responsible, and productive members of that society.

The only way to keep from returning to active addiction is not to take that first drug. If you are like us you know that one is too many and a thousand never enough. We put great emphasis on this, for we know that when we use drugs in any form, or substitute one for another, we release our addiction all over again.

Thinking of alcohol as different from other drugs has caused a great many addicts to relapse. Before we came to NA, many of us viewed alcohol separately, but we cannot afford to be confused about this. Alcohol is a drug. We are people with the disease of addiction who must abstain from all drugs in order to recover.

### **We Do Recover**

When at the end of the road we find that we can no longer function as a human being, either with or without drugs, we all face the same dilemma. What is there left to do? There seems to be this alternative: either go on as best we can to the bitter ends—jails, institutions or death—or find a new way to live. In years gone by, very few addicts ever had this last choice. Those who are addicted today are more fortunate. For the first time in man's entire history, a simple way has been proving itself in the lives of many addicts. It is available to us all. This is a simple spiritual—not religious—program, known as Narcotics Anonymous.

Reprinted from the White Booklet, Narcotics Anonymous. © 1986 by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc., PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409 ISBN 0-912075-65-1 6/04

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### **What is our message?**

**The message is that an addict,  
any addict, can stop using drugs,  
lose the desire to use,  
and find a new way to live.  
Our message is hope  
and the promise of freedom.**



## **CENTRAL LOUISIANA AREA MEETING LIST**

**OCTOBER 2024**

**NA HELPLINE  
585-DONT-USE  
(585-366-8873)**

**Our Website:  
<https://cenlana.org>**

**LA Region Website:  
<https://larna.org>**

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR EVERYONE**

**DON'T USE no matter what  
Ask your Higher Power to keep you clean  
Come early and stay late  
Get a home group  
Go to 90 meetings in 90 days  
Read NA literature daily  
Get and use a sponsor  
Use the PHONE**

**KEEP COMING BACK. IT WORKS!**