

### **Are there limits to personal contributions?**

Yes. The limit on all contributions to WSO from individual members of Nar-Anon and Narateen is \$10,000 (USD) per year. WSO may accept a one-time legacy from a Nar-Anon member in any amount up to \$100,000 (USD).

### **Can groups receive services for free?**

No. Since we are fully self-supporting Nar-Anon and Narateen do not seek nor accept donations, grants, resources, or services for free. We pay our way and we pay a fair market price. We trust our members will provide what we need, both in money and time, to carry our message of hope to the families and friends of addicts.

### **Who is responsible for financing Nar-Anon?**

The final responsibility and authority for Nar-Anon services rests with the Nar-Anon Family Groups. While the groups are fully self-supporting, our services beyond the group level rely on contributions from the groups.

### **What is a prudent reserve?**

The Guide to Local Services describes a prudent reserve as "... an agreed upon amount to be held in reserve for


operating expenses in the group, area, and region."

### **What if I do not have money to put in the basket? Can I still come to the meeting?**

Yes. Participation in a meeting is not contingent on monetary contributions. Our primary purpose is to welcome and give comfort to the families of addicts. A member recalls, *As I sat in the rooms, I heard, 'Let this meeting be our gift to you.' This seemed like a kind gesture and made it feel like the group was genuinely happy I was there. I felt welcomed.*

Whether a newcomer or long-time member, if you are hurting due to another's addiction you are welcome.

For more on finances see the Guide to Local Services (GLS).

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## **Tradition Seven**

**Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.**



Our commitment to Tradition Seven is a commitment to unity. When we are self-supporting, we are no longer alone. We rely on each other, and others depend on us.

How will I contribute today?

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***Nar-Anon is a twelve step program for families and friends of addicts.***

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### **Membership in Nar-Anon**

Membership comes with responsibilities and the Seventh Tradition outlines some of those responsibilities. A member shares, *For the group to be fully self-supporting, it needs my contributions of time and money.*

### **Contributions of Money**

At each meeting it is customary to pass a basket for members to contribute financially. Visitors and newcomers are sometimes asked to be our guests until they choose to be a member.

The monies collected are distributed first to the group's expenses such as rent, the purchase of Conference Approved Literature (CAL), Group Service Representative (GSR) expenses, prudent reserve, and other expenses the group conscience has determined are necessary to fulfill its primary purpose.

Additional funds beyond group expenses are sent to area, region, and WSO to support their efforts of carrying the message of hope throughout the world.

The Guide to Local Services states, "Although it is appropriate to ensure funds are available to carry out the

normal tasks of groups, areas, and regions, these entities should avoid accumulation of funds in excess of their immediate needs (prudent reserve). Excess funds should be contributed to WSO for the benefit of Nar-Anon as a whole."

### **Contributions of Time**

Once we choose to be members of Nar-Anon we are asked to give of ourselves and support our group, area, region, and the World Service Office (WSO). There are many ways each member can contribute.

Some choose to participate only at the group level where one-on-one work with family members who are suffering from the effects of a loved one's addiction is essential. A member shares, *The best way for me to carry the message is to help my group support itself year after year.*

Other members begin to reach out in service beyond the group level choosing to be a GSR, an officer of the regional service committee, or delegate. Some may join a subcommittee created specifically to carry the message of recovery. Still others use their gifts and skills to write our literature, develop our

website, create outreach materials, contribute to the Serenity Connection, develop our policies and guidelines, or facilitate a Narateen Meeting.

### **Declining Outside Contributions**

Our Seventh Tradition maintains the integrity of our fellowship. By declining outside contributions we ensure our freedom from the influences of money donated from outside enterprises, well-meaning people, and institutions. A member reminds us, *We are not beholden to any other entity, nor can anyone have power over the group; because it is self-supporting.*

We retain our independence because we decline contributions from individuals or organizations outside our fellowship.

### **Group Conscience**

Concept Eleven states, "Nar-Anon funds are used to further our primary purpose to carry the message, and must be managed responsibly." It is the beacon that guides each group when a discussion of finances makes its way into the group conscience.

Decisions regarding money, rotation of service positions, and how to best carry the message are made through group

conscience and not by a single member.  
In this way, the Nar-Anon Fellowship  
remains true to its principles.

APPROVAL DRAFT - NOT FOR USE IN MEETINGS