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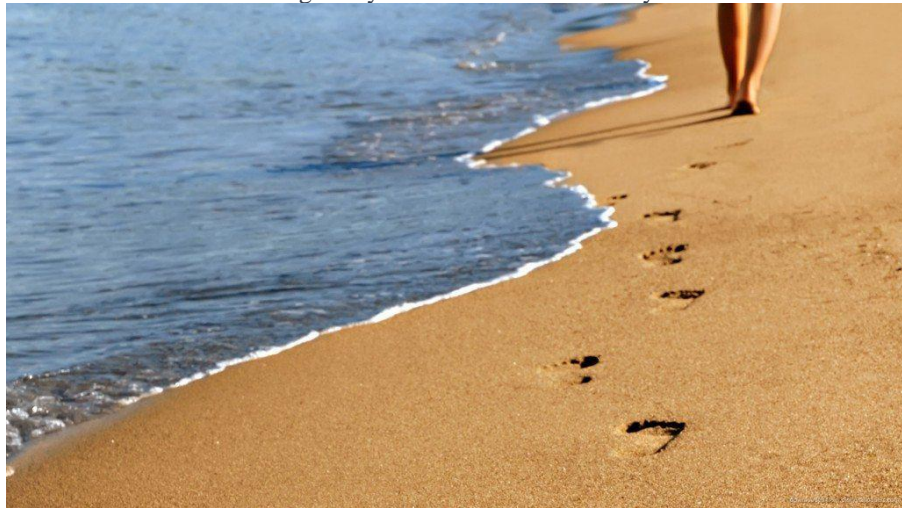
June 1<sup>st</sup> 2022

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# STRAIGHT HOPE

News Letter from the Montgomery Area of Narcotics Anonymous



\*\*\*Letter from the editor: Hi fellow people in recovery! Summer is officially here and pools are now open; As are in person meetings!. As we work to balance enjoying our lives clean and our recovery in this beautiful time of year; What better way to do service than get involved with the newsletter. If you would like to write an article or contribute in anyway please contact us at [straighthope@cprna.org](mailto:straighthope@cprna.org) We would love to have you be a part of sending the message of hope! Let

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*Step 6*

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*Step Six, My Experience...*

Step 6: Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

This is a deceptively difficult step.. It's tempting to jump over both Steps 6 and 7 and go directly to Steps 8 and 9. That would be a mistake. As the first line on Step 6 points out: this is the step that separates the men from the boys (or the adults from the children).

My experience with Step 6 is that it is a critical part of the process of change. Working the 12 steps of Na allows me to live life comfortably clean. This process continues through today. It is not enough to be free from alcohol and drugs. I need to change the way I act; change the way I look at things and change the way I react to things. Step 6 requires me to be honest about who I am and what I need to do. And that I can't do it myself. I need to become ready to have all my defects of character removed. And I need to recognize that I can't do it myself. I need God's help.

How do I become entirely ready? Frequently I still do things that I regret. I then rationalize and excuse my behavior and my conduct. Eventually I become willing to admit my fault. However, accepting responsibility isn't enough. The key is asking God for help in changing my behavior so I don't do it again. Unfortunately that process of change usually only occurs

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*Tradition 6*

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Tradition Six - Solidarity

An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Tradition 6 teaches us to be true to our primary purpose of the 12-step program and to ourselves. In meetings or committee work when we endorse any outside organizations besides our 12-step program, we divert from the focus of the program. This includes similar 12 Step programs, such as A.A. should not endorse N.A. and vice versa because they are separate organizations. This holds true for clubhouses that might hold our meetings, treatment programs that treat substance use disorders, churches, community centers, hospitals, and other organizations where meetings might be held. Taking a position on outside issues can alienate people who do not agree. This even includes seemingly related issues, prohibition, drinking age limits or drug legalization initiatives. The program does not officially support or oppose these initiatives and it would be inappropriate to discuss these issues at meetings. It is fine to support whatever organizations you want outside of the meetings, but not at the meetings. There might be those both in and outside of the program that recognize these issues have nothing to do with me not taking a drink of drug today. Any other priorities beyond our primary purpose can be a distraction or diversion from our efforts to stay

clean and sober and help others. Some of these other organizations do good work, for sure, but they also have business interests that fall outside of our goals of recovery. Issues of money, property and prestige can divert the group from the focus on the primary purpose. Although financial gain and fame seem like they could benefit the program, the pursuit of these could betray the groups in the long run. The 6th tradition is similar to a group version of the 10th Step, where we take a regular inventory to stay on tract regarding the primary purpose. The quest for fame and fortune can trigger our insecurities and move our priorities away from our recovery.

Credit: Ben C.



*Events*

*Celebrations:*

Mon 5/30 7PM Callyn 14 yrs Monday Night Miracles by Candlelight (hybrid) ZOOM 810 8397960  
pw 287829 / Grace Trinity United Church of Christ, 9501 Baltimore Rd, Frederick, MD, 21704

Wed 6/1 7:30PM Niko T. 11 yrs. and Cheri B. 10 yrs. Peoples Recovery ( Hybrid) ZOOM 878 0419  
2075 pw 659058 /

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 13925 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD,  
20904

Thur 6/2 8:00PM Todd S. 35 Yrs. Making a Difference ZOOM 520 984 331 pw 123456

Wed 6/15 7:30PM Deenie 35yrs at Peoples Recovery group ( Hybrid) ZOOM 878 0419 2075 pw  
659058 / The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 13925 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver  
Spring, MD, 20904

Sun 6/26 6:00PM Peter M. and Beth S. 17 yrs. Talking Heads ZOOM 816 0616 8822 pw  
recovery12

#### Meeting Announcements:

Older Toddlers meeting is going "Hybrid" starting on Friday May 20th at 7:00PM. It is at Christ  
Episcopal Church

4001 Franklin Street, Kensington, MD 20895 ( at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and Franklin  
Street, just south of Everett Street between Kensington and I-495 ). Parking lot at (4001 Everett  
Street) is adjacent to the church, and can be entered via Everett Street.

Steps to Freedom meeting of NA meets Monday nights at 7:30 – we work steps for 20 mins in the  
meeting and then share. ZOOM 859 4843 0435 pw 842655

**\*\*New Meeting\*\*** Sunday 6:00 pm Topic of Cancer Zoom ID: 817 1770 9889 P/W 438560 . Topic  
of Cancer is an NA meeting above all. It has been started for people who are also dealing with  
cancer. While cancer in recovery is the focus, it is still an open NA meeting and all are welcome.