The World Service Office (WSO) has received inquiries and questions about health concerns regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and our meetings. As a clearinghouse of information for the Nar-Anon Family Group, WSO has no informed guidance to offer on health matters. We encourage Nar-Anon groups to discuss the situations being faced and the options you have to provide safe environments for those who attend your meetings. Groups may want to consider asking members to temporarily stop some of the group's common practices - such as hugging, shaking hands, or offering refreshments. You may also want to consider alternatives to "circling up" at the end of the meeting.

Some groups are discussing contingencies for the possibility that they will not be able to meet face to face for some period; ideas include hosting phone meetings or online meetings. In facing this challenge, members can rely on the principles in keeping with the wisdom expressed in Traditions 2, 4, and 12.

You may want to contact your local or national public health agencies for specific guidance regarding meetings and gatherings. We are aware of the guidelines and recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), https://www.cdc.gov/ and there are similar agencies in countries outside of the USA. The World Health Organization (WHO) may also be a resource https://www.who.int/.

Please contact your local area or region for specific information regarding group changes, they will be the best source for that information. Some area and region website information can be found at https://www.nar-anon.org/other-sites. For those groups not in an area or region, please email WSO - wso@nar-anon or https://www.nar-anon.org/edit-group to give group updates.

We hope our groups will be able to continue to offer support to those affected by someone else's addiction during the coming weeks.

Our best wishes and good health to all of you.

- A printable PDF of this statement is available.