

Outward-focused: Our Friends, and Future Members Group's Conscience

1) [II. Cooperation with the Professional Community, Item C]: "Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlets for the mental health professionals."

It was decided at the 2021 conference that the Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community develop a pamphlet directed to mental health professionals.

At the August 2021 committee meeting it was decided that the first step would be to convene a focus group made up of past/present Class A's trustees' and other mental health professionals that are members of the fellowship.

The focus group was formed made up of leading experts in the mental health field from both the U.S. and Canada, as well as several GSB Trustees / Non-trustee Directors and met on December 10, 2021. They were asked what their needs are when addressing the suffering alcoholic, they responded to three questions

-What are the barriers to referring or providing information to your clients about A.A.

- What clear A.A. message to give professionals and what the ongoing message should be.

- What do you tell your peers about A.A.

They also discussed other topics to help carry A.A. message to professionals

A copy of the focus groups report was sent to identified professionals that could not attend so that they could contribute as appropriate.

In January 2022 the committee reviewed the focus group report and recommended that the staff secretary begin work with Publishing on the development of the language and potential formats.

Your being asked to bring this information to your group as a general update and an example of the process. The action being taken at the convention is the review of the focus group report which includes the recommendation that work begin on language and format.