

May 31, 1984

Mr. Barry Tabas, Chairman
Area Service Hospitals & Institutions
2638 North Talman Avenue
Chicago, IL 60647

Dear Barry:

In regards to our telephone conversation concerning people in the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous starting Hospital & Institutions (H&I) meetings on their own, we do appreciate their enthusiasm. However, it seems like whenever someone first gets clean, they want to go out and start an H&I meeting, whether it's in a hospital or in a jail, and it is through experience that we feel this inevitably defeats our purpose of serving the Fellowship. More specifically, we find people that do attempt doing this on their own have a tendency to "burn out" real fast, and once they "burn out", there is nobody to fulfill their commitments, and Narcotics Anonymous as a whole suffers.

We try to discourage people from attempting to set up committee meetings on their own. Instead, we request that people come to our H&I Committee Meetings and present their intentions to us as to how we can best serve that particular institution and then we can determine whether we have enough people to fulfill proposed commitments. With this in mind, perhaps you might consider making announcements and otherwise informing people in the Fellowship that you request they come to your H&I Committee with their requests and problems needing attention.

Thank you very much,

Bob Bergh, Chairman
World Service H&I Committee

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