

# Is Your South King County NA Group Considering Re-Opening?

The Narcotics Anonymous 12th Tradition states that we should practice spiritual principles in all our affairs, including selflessness, responsibility, trustworthiness and compassion.



First review State & Local Mandates, all applicable Narcotics Anonymous Guidelines, as well as NA 12 Steps, Traditions and Concepts

Can't Safely Meet Requirements

- \* Suspend In-Person Meeting
- \* Stay Virtual /Online or Go Virtual/Online

OR

Can Safely Meet Requirements

- \* Review Area Checklist
- \* Follow Best Practices

## BEST PRACTICES

The goal of our area groups is to create a culture of safety in Narcotics Anonymous, for meetings that open, to be able to safely remain open and maintain good standing in the communities in which we hold our meetings. While our Fourth Tradition states that each group is autonomous, it is qualified with, "except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole". **If we do not follow the requirements of our state and county when re-opening, this could affect NA as a whole and possibly draw NA into public controversy and affect our adherence to Tradition Ten.** Each group should decide their own course of action via an informed group conscience and with the spirit of our traditions in mind.

If you open a meeting, the best practice would be to comply with the conditions set by the venue owner and all restrictions set forth by the government. It is the decision of each group as to whether to reopen a meeting and the decision of each member whether to attend the meeting. **If you feel that you cannot meet the requirements, then you would be better off to continue meeting online, start meeting online or close the meeting for now.**

Know that the guidelines released by Inslee include the suggestion that folks collect contact tracing information of all that attend gatherings. While it is not required (yet) it is "strongly encouraged". Groups may also be asked by their venues to keep a detailed record of who has attended the meeting, including names and phone numbers. While some may be concerned about their anonymity, we are only anonymous at the public level. We do not feel that this is outside the spirit of our tradition of anonymity, as these details would need to be provided to the health authorities only in the event of an infected member attending a meeting. **This is not an anonymity breach.**

## AREA CHECKLIST

- Get permission from the facility to meet & ask if they have additional requirements to use the facility

- Write a plan for overflow issues

- Make a written plan for sanitizing facility and bathrooms before & after meetings

- Address in group preamble how your group will comply with public safety concerns (require wearing masks and practice social distancing)

- Make a written plan for dealing with phone lists and key tag distribution

- Groups that choose to open need to appoint at least one (1) Serenity Keeper per meeting to:

- Obtain all persons names and contact information who attend the meeting- for contact tracing -to be kept for 4 weeks to be safe.
- Monitor number of occupants to assist in complying with requirements of number allowed and enforce groups overflow plan
- Ensure chairs are properly placed 6ft apart, ensure there is signage at entry and exit points reminding members to follow state laws.

- Encourage members to bring their own beverages and books instead of providing coffee and passing around the readings