

## CENTRAL MARYLAND AREA NA TODAY NEWSLETTER

STEP



April 2024

The fear of looking IN me AT me, kept my step four on hold

I heard all the horror stories about the fourth step and was worried that I would end up being one of those. The fear of looking IN me AT me, kept my step four on hold for six months. And in that six months I got a new boo and lost that boo, got another and lost that boo too. My sponsor hugged me as I cried about being unlovable, and she said.. So how's that fourth step going? Before I could open my mouth, she said maybe we want to start? She told me write until my pen felt heavy and then take a break, she didn't expect me to get it all done at once but write a little every day or every other day just write. I finally started writing and I was able to honestly write through my fourth step until.. Yup, just like many other.. That pen got heavy at sex and became a boulder at relationships again at sex and again at abuse, it was no longer a pen. I couldn't get through these section without getting sick to my stomach and crying. I called my sponsor and she invited me over for coffee. I showed up at her door with book in hand, highlighted sections, sticky notes with questions. I needed to know I wasn't the only one who felt this way. She shared what she felt while going through her fourth step and said, "all you have to do is be honest and continue. What you feel is good, that means that your are waking up" It made sense, and left me with a clam I couldn't explain. I did continue and I cried through it. It was painful, but freeing. What I couldn't put into words for a long time was, the freedom that came from the pain of finally being honest and no longer needing to hide the cloud of shame so deep inside me because of **my part**. I didn't have to scream it from the roof tops, but I no longer had to hide from it. The discomfort and pain that came from it finally coming to the surface was more healing than I understood at that moment. And it gave me the strength to move on too my next step

Anonymous 4/2024

## TRADITION FOUR

"Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole." .

NA groups have a great deal of freedom. We've already seen in Tradition Three that groups are free of any need to screen their mem Ders or set requirements for membership. Our NA groups are free to offer recovery to any addict. The Fourth Tradition enhances that free dom, allowing the rich diversity of our varied experience to help us serve.

## Fourth Concept

Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.

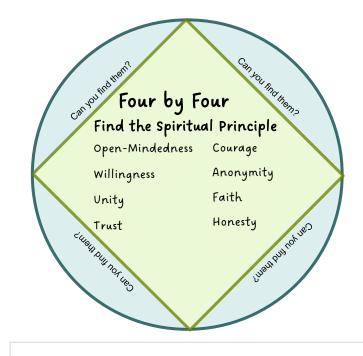
The trust necessary to confidently delegate service authority is founded on the careful selection of trusted servants. In the following paragraphs, we highlight a number of the qualities to be considered when choosing our trusted servants. No leader will exemplify all these qualities; they are the ideals of effective leadership to which every trusted servant aspires. The more we consider these qualities when selecting NA leaders, the better our services will be. Personal background and professional or educational qualifications, though helpful, do not necessarily make for effective leadership..



LUUTTO







Montgomery Area Special Events **Present our Annual** Meeting on the Mountain Sugarloaf Mountain Saturday April 20th WE will meet in the West View Parking Lot at 2:00 PM, WE will Hike to the top together, WE will have a Meeting will be at 3:00 PM on the top WE can go up the Green Stairs if WE feel strong or go around the back on the Blue Trail to the Red Trail Direction, Drive to 7901 Comus Road, Dickerson, MD 20842, Follow the road to the main parking lot, Turn to the left for the West View parking lot follow to the end Come join us for a day of **Recovery & Fellowship in the Great Outdoors** Lets go up on the Mountain & be the WE that makes NA what WE LIVE today You Can Always Donate to MASE Via Venmo @Natalie-Gitleman or Cash App \$Specialevents007 Want to Volunteer? Need More information?

Contact Brad S. 540-272-8899 or Brian L. 240-243-8324

P C O U R A G E O U B S Q P Q H U B W M J A Y P D Y R V W F T N B T I H A L E S C U S I M L Z X N K U N N N D H U D L U H R N B F O O D M A O S L L N K O H K J X N J I M N W E I I T E F N A B Y C N W E F N N T R U M W N M M V D T S C E G Y U L W C X B I T E V T C Q N F S J I F A I T H D E Y S H E A T H R N Y N Y Q N C Z I S S D H W F Q O Z J P E S B L T S I A R X W I O V U S I V J T N R M J B R S Y A J S Y M D C Y A U H V L U V O P B S Q Y D M B



Editor/Publisher: Amanda K NAT Contact Info: aalbizu333@gmail.com







