

We have tried to answer the most frequently asked questions.

Q: What is an intergroup and what does it do?

A: PTI is an association of Overeater's Anonymous (OA) groups within Pinellas County area. There are roughly 20 Member Groups affiliated with PTI. PTI's primary purpose is to serve its members and thus help "to carry the message to those who still suffer." By consolidating and coordinating the OA outreach efforts and activities, the intergroup can accomplish what one group or individual could not do alone. Intergroups are a fulfillment of the Ninth, OA Tradition: "OA as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

Here are a few ways PTI serves our members:

- Publish a monthly "Newspages" with a current meeting list found at www.oapinellas.org.
- Assist newly formed groups.
- Coordinate Public Information
- Reach out to unaffiliated groups within Pinellas.
- Distribute Regional and World Service information. (We are Region 8.)
- Participate in the annual Florida State Convention.
- Sponsor Workshops, Marathons, Retreats and special events.

A regular PTI meeting is held the third Saturday of each month at 12 noon. It is a video conferencing meeting. It is attended by the Service Board, Intergroup Reps (IR) and/or alternates. Visitors are always welcome and encouraged.

The time and place of the regular PTI meeting is posted in the monthly "Newspages." If you are interested in attending a PTI meeting and need details, email:

Chair...chair@oapinellas.org

- This intergroup is governed by the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of OA and the By-laws of the intergroup. PTI has a Service Board which consists of duly elected officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- The Service Board also has 12 Step service done through PTI "Committee" work, each doing ser-

vice to help bring OA to those who need and want it. If you have any interest in and of these committees, come to a PTI meeting and check it out.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE COMMITTEES:

• BYLAWS AND ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS:

This committee keeps the P&P and Bylaws in order when new practices are voted in and need to be changed.

- **TWELVE STEP WITHIN COMMITTEE:** Helps those members in relapse with recovery by sharing information and ideas on how to strengthen their program.

• PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH/PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

Keeps public aware of OA through print and broadcast media. Carries the message of OA to the interested professionals and institutions of our community. Assist the Health Care Profession serving our area in reaching out to those still suffering.

- **WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE:** Maintains communications between PTI and our members in all matters concerning accountability and finances within PTI, according to our 12 Traditions. Helps with creating a budget for PTI.

- **INTERGROUP OUTREACH:** Reach out to other intergroups in Region 8 to help them or to get ideas for new projects.

Together we can!

Q: How is one selected to be an Intergroup Rep. (IR) or an Alternate?

A: As each member group is autonomous, the Representatives are selected by their groups by group conscience. Each group is responsible for sending at least one person to the monthly meeting of the intergroup. The suggested length of service is 6 months minimum. There are many of us who believe there is no better way to do service for our home group and OA as a whole than serving as an IR.

Q: What are the responsibilities of and Intergroup Rep (IR)?

A: A representative is responsible for attending the monthly meeting of PTI. The IR reports back

to their group meeting. The IR is the PRIMARY link between the Intergroup and the members of the individual groups

Q: How are PTI (Service Board) officers selected?

A: Officers are selected by a majority vote by the IR's in attendance at the annual election in November. At the September meeting those wishing to do service are requested to fill file a "Board Application" form with the nominations committee. It is suggested that an OA member limit their service in one position for 2 years. This allows rotation of service.

Q: Who are the officers and what are their duties?

A: Chairperson

- Maintain and establish agenda and preside over all PTI meetings.
- Forward any information specifically to committees responsible to handle the same.
- Responsible for overall unity and group conscience of PTI. Be Liaison with World Service Organization(WSO) and our Region 8 Trustee.

Vice-Chair

- Assume all responsibilities in absence of the Chair and assist in any other matters needed.
- Be the liaison with Marathons, Workshops, Retreats and special events.

Secretary

- Record the minutes of all meetings of the Intergroup.
- Submit approved minutes for print in the NEWS PAGES.
- Keeps all records of PTI on the PTI computer.

Treasurer

- Deposit all funds into bank account.
- Keep track of PayPal money deposits.
- Maintain records of transactions on a spreadsheet.
- Keep records of committee budgets.
- Submit detailed financial report of contributions and expenditures at the regular Intergroup meeting. Serve as Chair of Budget Committee with Chair and one intergroup representative.

Q: What does PTI do with the donations it gets from my meeting?

A: There is an OA pamphlet (Seventh Tradition Of OA) which suggests how the 7th Tradition contributions should be distributed. PTI adopted the 60/30/10 structure as outlined in the pamphlet at the Nov. 1994 meeting. PTI pledges that the 7th Tradition received from groups are disbursed as follows:

- PTI.....60%
- WSO.....30%
- Region 8.....10%

60% of your contribution is retained by PTI and used locally for printing and mailing costs, new meeting seed money, hot line upkeep, and office material. PTI sends Region Representatives to *Region Business Assemblies,(3 times a year) and Delegates to attend the *World Service Business Conference (once a year).

PTI also sponsors Workshops, Marathons and Retreats.

Q: How do you decide on Speakers for Workshops, Marathons and Retreats.

A: These decisions are made by the home group hosting the event and not PTI. PTI does support the hosting group in many ways, always remembering the 4th Tradition: "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole".

The host chooses its speaker from the OA fellowship and specifically those who have abstinence and are willing to share their experience strength and hope with the group.

*The primary purpose of Assemblies is to conduct OA business at the Region level for Region assembly and world wide at the World Service Business Convention. Our PTI representatives give us a voice in the process of OA business.

We hope some questions have been answered and you have a better understanding of PTI and its role in OA. If you have any questions, an interest in learning more or doing service in OA, please attend one or more of our PTI meetings conducted monthly.

ALL members are welcome to attend the PTI meetings. **SERVICE** is one of our tools of recovery and it is through service that we help those who are still suffering and help ourselves keep what we have. Please consider volunteering as an intergroup representative for your meeting.

OA's responsibility pledge states:

"Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion, for this I am responsible"

Acknowledgements

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To Miami-Dade for allowing us to use material contained in their Intergroup Brochure. Reproduction if this material is permitted in its entirety by other OA groups, with a provision for free distribution only.

An Introduction to PINELLAS TRADITIONS INTERGROUP (PTI)

This pamphlet has been prepared by Pinellas Traditions Intergroup (PTI) for the purpose of introducing PTI to the members who are unfamiliar with the role of the Intergroup in the service structure of Overeaters Anonymous.