

2024 Report

CoDA Service Conference (CSC)

I would like to thank voting entity Pennsylvania for sending me to the conference in Ottawa Canada. I think we all learned a lot. The city was welcoming, and there were many attractions, and a lot of restaurants, The business was intense, and sometimes chaotic, we had to use all our CoDA recovery tools to complete our work.

The Board of Trustees has the responsibility to act in the fellowship's best interest when the Conference is not in session.

Board Motions (Outside of Conference)

1. On 3/24/2024, The Board removed one of their board members by a majority vote.
2. Board Motions passed by email motion: To have the CoDA teen name sent to copyright lawyer for trademark as it is now officially part of CoDA.
3. Board Motion, that the Board consult with a tax attorney to review the Finance Committee's reimbursement policy.
4. Motion: To obtain a credit card in place of our debit card to be used for business that is paid in full each month with no revolving credit debt. Extended credit or large out of the normal business purchases will be approved by a CoDA Board Motion.
5. Motion: To Authorize CoDA Chair Kathrine T and CoDA Treasurer Tina R to be added as signers on all of Codependents Anonymous Inc's accounts at Chase Bank.
6. Motion: Ensure one M365 license is available for each board member and alternates each year in perpetuity.
7. The Board funded Edovo, to put CoDA Literature on tablets in over 700 US prisons and jails, in over 40 states. Hospitals & Institutions Committee.
8. The Board approved the new "CoDA" App. For use on tablets and phones.
Communications Committee

Treasurer Report (rounded to the nearest \$100)

Wells Fargo Savings \$151,500

Chase CD \$200,000

Chase Savings \$5,700

Prudent Reserve: \$250,000

Chase Checking \$26,500

General Funds Available: \$133,700

Board Motions at Conference

1. It is the responsibility of each Voting Entity's service board to notify, in writing, the Voting Entity Liaison (VEL), by sending their minutes with their selection/election to office of its Delegates, and terms of office. The VEL will send an entire vetted list to the CoDA Board Secretary before CSC begins @ Secretary@coda.org.
2. Registering and vetting elected Delegates. The Voting Entity Liaison (VEL) then sends the list of vetted Delegates to the Board Secretary before CSC. The Events Committee then oversees the quorum process including selection of the CSC Facilitator.
3. Financial responsibility, banking, investing, and reimbursable. The opening and/or closing of any/all CoDA banking and investment accounts shall require the signatures of both the CoDA Board Chair and the CoDA Board Treasurer, with a Board motion approval to support the transaction.
4. The role of a chair, on a committee. One member elected to serve as Chair; Chair role not to be divided among multiple members. Minimum of 3 active members (including the chair)

Note: All Board Motions passed with greater than a 2/3rd majority.

Issues Mediation Committee (IMC) Motions

1. Changed the waiting period from 6 years to 3 years to apply for a delegate grant to come to conference. Board has discretion. Passed simple majority (with crafting)
2. Abstention vote will not count as a no. Passed as a majority vote. Minority opinion: This makes sense for CSC, but when you take it home to the meetings, which may be very small, it may not fully apply. VOTE: Yes 41, No 6, Abstain 0. Passed.

3. Remove the “Responsibilities of a Delegate” from the FSM (Fellowship Service Manual).
Passed 2/3rd Majority

Literature Motions

1. “Living Recovery through Service” a new booklet passed, less than 2/3rd majority, not binding on the CoDA Board.
2. “Issues with the God Word,” a new booklet Passed, less than 2/3rd majority. Not binding on the CoDA Board.
3. New rules on how a voting entity can present literature, passed 2/3rd majority.
4. Remove what is in the FSM (Fellowship Service Manual) and replace it with:

What is a CoDA Meeting?

A CoDA meeting is part of the twelve-step Fellowship, Co-Dependents Anonymous. Each CoDA group is made up of two or more people who come together because of their shared desire for healthy and loving relationships, with the primary purpose of carrying the message of Co-Dependents Anonymous to those who still suffer. CoDA meetings use The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Co-Dependents Anonymous as the basis for working the CoDA recovery program. In CoDA meetings, members share their personal experience, strength, and hope, gained by working the CoDA recovery program.

Because The Twelve Steps of Co-Dependents Anonymous are the basis of our recovery, it is strongly suggested that each meeting set aside at least one meeting per month for step study. Because The Twelve Traditions of Co-Dependents Anonymous are the spiritual foundation of our meetings, our service, and our lives, it is strongly suggested that meetings set aside one meeting each month for tradition study.

The use of Co-Dependents Anonymous, our basic text, and other CoDA Service Conference endorsed literature at meetings builds unity, trust, and shared welfare. This maintains continuity in the CoDA recovery message across all CoDA meetings. CoDA Service Conference endorsed literature is written and endorsed by and for CoDA members. As such, it reflects the voice of the Fellowship of Co-Dependents Anonymous worldwide.

For more basic information about CoDA meetings, see the CoDA booklet, Newcomer Handbook, Second Edition.

To be a recognized CoDA meeting, whether in person, phone, or online, meetings:

1. Register on coda.org by using the online registration form. Required information includes day and time of meeting, first names of one or two contact members and their email addresses, phone number is optional. Listings are expected to be updated annually and when information changes.

2. Read as written CoDA's four foundational documents, posted on coda.org, at every meeting:

The Preamble of Co-Dependents Anonymous

The Welcome of Co-Dependents Anonymous (long or short version)

The Twelve Steps of Co-Dependents Anonymous

The Twelve Traditions of Co-Dependents Anonymous

3. Use CoDA's foundational text, Co-Dependents Anonymous, "the CoDA book" as their main resource during CoDA meetings.

4. Use only CoDA Service Conference endorsed books, workbooks, booklets, and pamphlets during meetings and for sale at in-person meetings.

CoDA Traditions support the exclusive use of CoDA Service Conference endorsed literature.

We find guidance in our Traditions, particularly Traditions One, Four, Six, and Twelve:

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon CoDA unity."

Tradition One tells us that CoDA unity is our first spiritual principle. CoDA's shared welfare and unity are created by using a consistent format, readings, and literature across all meetings. This allows members to go to a meeting anywhere in the world and hear the same CoDA recovery message. Using outside literature can be divisive and is outside the scope of Co-Dependents Anonymous.

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

Tradition Four states that groups have autonomy, but not at the expense of the rest of the Fellowship. The use of outside literature creates confusion, particularly for the newcomer, regarding the nature of our program. It creates inconsistency across meetings, distracting us from the CoDA message.

“A CoDA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the CoDA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim.”

Tradition Six is clear. CoDA meetings must keep their focus on CoDA’s primary spiritual aim, as a place where suffering codependents can find recovery in the program of Co-Dependents Anonymous. Using outside literature in our meetings endorses and financially supports its author and their message instead of Co-Dependents Anonymous. It creates inconsistency, confusion, and controversy and diverts us from our primary spiritual purpose.

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions; ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.”

Tradition Twelve points us to CoDA Service Conference endorsed literature because our literature is written anonymously, by and for the CoDA Fellowship, and it places the principles found in CoDA’s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions first.

VOTE: Yes 32, No 16, Abstain 0, Motion Passed 2/3.

Communications Committee

Motion to change the wording of the purpose of the Communications Committee in the FSM:

The Primary function of the Communication Committee (Comm) is aiding the Fellowship by monitoring and responding to email and phone calls from our Fellowship members. You can reach us at info@CoDA.org and our toll-free number 888-444-2359. Passed.

Hospitals and institutions Committee

Redefined its budget and funding requirements. Passed 2/3rd majority.

CoDA Teen

We tabled the Approval of the CoDA Teen “Twelve steps.”

Approved their “Twelve Traditions.”

Approved their “Bridge to Recovery.”

Approved their pamphlet “CoDA Teen Handbook.”

Finance Committee

1. Motion. A representative of the Finance Committee will answer the question, in each motion, form “What is the Financial impact of this motion to the CoDA Budget this year and in future years?” Passed.

2. Motion. The CoDA Finance Committee works with the CoDA Treasurer and Board to provide financial oversight, analysis, and advice to the Fellowship of CoDA with respect to:

- Prudent budgeting and investing
- Financial stability
- Monetary resources of the CoDA Fellowship.
- Review the Accountable Reimbursement Plan of Co-Dependents Anonymous, Inc. and propose amendments when needed. Passed

3. Motion. Finance Committee Responsibilities:

- Review annually the amount of our prudent reserve, which is currently defined as equals \$250,000 or equal to half of the total actual operational expenses for the previous two calendar years, whichever is greater.
- Annually compile an overall budget in cooperation with the committees and the Board. The committee considers whether or not CoDA’s revenue supports the budget requests and allows for our prudent reserve and makes a motion to approve the overall budget at the CoDA Service Conference (CSC).
- Provide input to the CoDA Service Conference related to the financial implications of proposals under discussion and suggest options.
- Apprise the CoDA Board and Fellowship of changing financial circumstances, which might require budgetary adjustments between CoDA Service Conferences.
- Aid trusted servants with submitting expense reimbursement requests. Review expense reports submitted by committee & board members for adherence to Accountable Reimbursement Plan of Co-Dependents Anonymous, Inc. and CoDA’s Expense Reimbursement Procedure. Passed
- Review CoDA's investments for adherence to Conference approved policy and limits set by legal entities insuring financial assets.

4. Motion. The CoDA Budget for 2024-2025

Voting Entity Texas Endorse the CoDA Canada 10th step self-rating scale. Passed Majority.

Voting Entity NorCal. (Northern California) Replace Section 6 in the bylaws with:

Section 6. Removal of a Trustee. A Trustee who is remiss in the duties of a Trustee and reveals an inability or unwillingness to execute these responsibilities as a Trustee or if the Trustee's behavior excessively violates Fellowship Service Manual (FSM) policies, CoDA Bylaws, the Board Policies and Procedures Manual or the tenets of the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Service Concepts, may be subject to removal from the Board. For the Board to consider the removal of a Trustee, all steps in the disagreement, mediation and resolution process must take place and follow the procedure outlined in the Fellowship Service Manual Part 1, Section 3, and in the Fellowship Service Manual Part 5, Section 3. The resolution process may also include requesting the Trustee to take a 45-day 'cooling off' period; a simple warning; temporary removal from CoDA service; and/or removal from leadership positions, etc. This time period would allow for self-development, personal growth and recovery before the Trustee returns to service. The Issues Mediation Committee (IMC) may be consulted at any time in this process for assistance. The Board agenda containing the motion for removal of a Trustee must be emailed 10 days before the meeting. The Trustee shall be allowed to participate in the meeting, if they so desire, or offered a chance for resignation. The Trustee may be relieved of office and removed from the Board by an affirmative two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Trustees present and voting if a quorum is present. Such removal must be presented for ratification at the next Conference. Any Trustee so removed and whose removal fails to be ratified by the Voting Members at the next CSC, shall be immediately reinstated to finish their term and/or subject to normal election procedures for Trustees set forth in these By Laws. VOTE: Yes 22, No 13, Abstain 4, Motion – Passed simple majority.

Elections Results

Board of Trustees--Dan R, Laurie C, Chris H (alternate)

CoRe Board--Eddy G, Kathy H, Kirsten S, Yaniv S

IMC--Maria P, Chris J, Jorge B, Gillian A, Marilyn L, All elected

I did not include motions that were withdrawn or defeated, only the motions that will affect the Fellowship in the future.

This is a very short summary I created so everyone can be kept aware of what is going on, and the changes that are taking place. Most world service committees gave reports, and some voting entities (states, and countries). If you have any questions, or want more details call me at (488)844-9644, or email me at myphilacoda@comcast.net

James K, Delegate, Roberta B Alternate