

What is NA Service?

Being of service in NA is an expression of our gratitude to the Program of Narcotics Anonymous. Many of us always wanted to be “a part of something,” and we were able to find that in being of service. Service in NA gives us a chance to become a part of a fellowship that helps addicts all around the world stay clean and find a new way of life. Our gratitude speaks when we care, and when we share, with others, the NA way. One way our gratitude speaks is by carrying the NA message of recovery to the addict who still suffer.

We usually begin being of service in NA by making coffee or tea, or cleaning up our rooms after meetings. Serving at a group helps us to attend meetings regularly, and experience tells us that those who keep coming to meetings regularly, stay clean. Being of service at the Group level helps to strengthen the very foundation of our recovery because it is possibly the first time when we have done something for others without seeking to profit. We expect nothing in return.

Living Clean states “Service is not a position in a committee; it is a posture in the heart. It’s a way of life we can practice in all our affairs.” As we get some experience serving at the Group level, many of us try ourselves out in different levels of the Service Structure, for instance, area or region, which opens up a whole new set of skills to learn and ways to be of service. We used to be takers, but now we are free to be givers. In time, we find that we actually receive much more than we could ever give, by being of service.

Being of service in NA is for any one of us. Service can be expressed by simple words quoted from the Basic Text: “Good will is best exemplified in service; proper service is “Doing the right thing for the right reason.”