

OA Region 8 is having its Spring Business Assembly this weekend and at our Intergroup Outreach committee breakout session today, we agreed to make the following offer based on how energizing our recent, inaugural cross-region sessions were:

The *Global* Version: Intergroups Helping Intergroups, Together We Can!

Region 8 is happy to continue hosting these global, cross-region intergroup idea-sharing sessions quarterly-ish and providing the recordings afterward. We agreed that we don't need to be as formal as we were with the inaugural one, i.e., everyone can take notes as they see fit, rather than the host, preparing a deep summary every time.

Please mark your calendars for the next three sets of sessions; you're free to join both or the most convenient one and we'll share Zoom login details ahead of each session:

- 25 June, 6 pm ET
- 27 June, 9 am ET

- 23 Sept., 6 pm ET
- 26 Sept., 9 am ET

- 6 Jan. 2022, 6 pm ET
- 9 Jan. 2022, 9 am ET

See you again in June! Thanks for your service. ~Sarah Region 8 Intergroup Outreach Chair

Today, OA Silicon Valley sent out the first email broadcast of its kind to 20,000 professionals in our (Santa Clara) county to invite them to our first of 3 "Get to Know OA" evenings for professionals.

Here is the registration link to the event aimed at professionals: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/149806297669>

Here is the registration link to an event on the same evening aimed at newcomers: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/147890334973>

Newcomers are being invited on the very same night as the professionals, but an hour beforehand, and then invited to remain with us for the 2nd hour by moving into our breakout rooms as we inform the professionals, from 7-8pm Pacific time, about OA and our local Silicon Valley intergroup, and allow time for them to ask any questions they may have.

I have prepared 2 different, yet similar, presentations for these separate audiences. I am happy to share them with you if there is any interest. If you visit the Eventbrite registration pages, you will find more details.

Here are the landing pages for each event with further information and details - please share widely!

For Newcomers: <https://bit.ly/2021NewcomerNights>

For Professionals: <http://bit.ly/get2knowOA>

We are expressly targeting physicians, educators, HR managers (with Employee Assistance Programs), and the clergy/faith leaders of every variety, as well as local government officials. We are encouraging our members to invite their doctors, the teachers of their teenagers and college-age children, employers, faith leaders, neighbors, friends, and family. I urge you to do the same!

If you are interested in receiving the detailed planning document for this event (slated for April 29th, July 28th, and September 28th) please let me know. We have spent \$4000 for the email blast (and more on our new website) and are looking for further funding to help us with the next 2 event dates. We hope to enlist more of you within the world of OA to participate with us in these events to make them as successful as possible so that those who still suffer may find their way into our rooms to recover!

I owe my life to this program (and the release of more than 90 pounds), so I am thrilled to be able to share these types of events with you. Please let me know if you are able to assist in sharing the event information with anyone and everyone that may be interested.

In addition to these two special events, we only just launched our new website: www.oasv.org. This was months in the making and many long hours in the planning, writing, and development. It is a completely modern, search engine optimized (SEO) website with an active blog and automated social media. Its contents took me many long hours to develop, but I am hopeful that its fresh, modern, and comprehensive approach, will help to make a change in the lives of compulsive eaters in our county and around the globe.

As a fellowship predominantly made up of older women (and at age 62, I count myself among this number), we have been lax in our approach to outreach and to our online presence. The pandemic has revealed how badly our program is needed by those all around the world. We must step up our efforts to modernize and reach out to so many who do not yet know of OA and its Twelve Step program of recovery. Given the numbers that die around the globe from disordered eating - 2.8 million annually - we **MUST** be faithful in honoring our primary purpose and reach those who need us most!

Please be sure to check out our new website - especially GET STARTED and PROFESSIONALS (all note FAMILY & FRIENDS)- as these sections have been built to help guide a new approach to outreach and messaging. As we are autonomous, each intergroup and meeting group may proceed as their group conscience guides, but we all must think on the impact to the whole. We each must move our online presence into a more favorable light and depart from the websites of old that were predominantly

created to list our meetings and speak to our existing membership. The time for outreach to the suffering compulsive eater is NOW! Let's move forward with a regard for their urgent needs and revisit how we think about our online presence. The world needs us now more than ever!

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, I welcome them!

In Service & Gratitude,

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