

# Sharing Hope.

## Service behind the scenes

*A Monthly Letter from the Director of Los Angeles H&I*

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Thank you all for the service work you do at LA H&I.

I want to specially acknowledge the people doing service work at our monthly meeting such as greeting, signing people in, providing forms, taking literature donations in and counting the money, making coffee, running the orientation, setting up the signs, providing information before the supervisors get out of the supervisors' meeting and get to their tables, running the meeting, selling tickets and doing the raffle, minding the Bridging The Gap and Contact Upon Release tables and dispensing literature.

I also want to acknowledge the folks taking care of the managerial work at both Penal and Hospital Panel sides and all the other positions: our Chairpersons, Area Supervisors and Directors, Panel Screen Chairperson, Outreach person, Newsletter Editor, Orientation Chairpersons, Director's Assistant, Policy Council Members, Treasurer, Literature Fund Chairperson, Raffle Persons, Literature Chairperson, Intergroup Rep, Central Office Rep, General Services Rep, Webmaster, Scribe, and those of you who behind the scenes aid these people in their appointed tasks.

I wanted to mention everyone (I hope I didn't miss anyone) because I don't know if everyone is aware of how many people and how much work it takes to make LA H&I function. These people are the backbone of LA H&I and it is a privilege and an honor to be a part of this awesome all-star, rock-star team.

I always want to address you as sisters and brothers because I consider you my family. I consider LA H&I a big family and as such sometimes difficulties arise among us but I am absolutely blown away at how this branch of AA ,even though it is far from running perfectly, works so amazingly well.

Another thing that totally blows me away is that some of us (deranged alcoholic and drug addicted derelicts), given our histories, where we've been and what we've done, can actually be kind, loving and civil with each other, get along relatively well and ultimately succeed in our primary purpose which is: *To stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.*

All I can say is wow!....It really shows the transformative power of this program.

With love and respect always,

*Noeh C.,  
LAHIC Director*

### *The Los Angeles H&I Committee*

LAHIC Director .....	Noeh C.
Director's Assistant .....	Devon C.
Policy Council Chair .....	Greg B.
Correctional Panels Director .....	Gene S.
Hospital Panels Director .....	Gregory G.
Panel Screening Chair .....	Mark S.
Treasurer .....	Mike A.
Literature Fund Chair .....	Margo R.
Signs .....	Jessica H.
Forms Chairperson .....	Robert G.
Raffle .....	Piper G.
Coffee .....	David H.
Literature Chairperson .....	Stephen B.
Orientation .....	Andy V. & Frank D.
Scribe .....	Sasha B.
Webmaster .....	Marc W.
Central Office Liaison .....	Kim J.
Bridging the Gap/Corrections .....	Beverly M.
Bridging the Gap/Hospitals & Rehabs .....	Sarah P.
LA Intergroup Rep .....	Sasha B.
Greeter/Smoking Police .....	Terry W.
Newsletter Editor .....	Colleen W.

### MARCH CAN TOTALS

This March, LAHIC took in a total of \$8482.84 in literature fund collections (i.e. "H&I cans") at meetings. Please thank your group, and keep reminding them that their dollar really makes a difference!

### VISIT CENTRAL OFFICE LATELY?

Plenty of opportunities to fill your free time with 12th-Step work! Help others, enjoy fellowship! More info: (323) 936-4343.

## “IF IT TAKES FOREVER...” “WELL, IT HAS BEEN 108 YEARS...”

I sit here writing this particular episode from beautiful Angels Stadium in Anaheim, as my beloved Chicago Cubs try to do something that hasn't been witnessed by mankind since 1908— win a World Series! My lapel pin reads, “If it takes forever.”

Well, I don't know what “forever” is, but 108 years seems to be close.

“If it takes forever” also applies to me getting sober, it seemed to take forever (I was 46), but when I got here, I stayed! The age we get sober is always the perfect age, because it means we were finally ready.

Speaking of ready, a gal my jail partner, Deborah, and I recently met at Twin Towers, named Ronnie, (who in case you



love and family.

We all pray this is her “forever”; H&I works!

*Gene S.*

*AA H&I Corrections Director*

ever did forget her name has it tattooed on her neck; a somewhat intimidating look, I might add) shared her story about finally being ready. She has both a new baby of her own and a new grandbaby; (I myself have neither, although I once owned a plant) and she's finally figured out that the only thing keeping her from these precious toddlers is (I'll give you a moment to do a drumroll in your head)... SOBRIETY!

Not being sober equals a life of crime; being sober equals a life of

## SERVING THE UNDERSERVED

Last year I was told that one of the panels in Area 1 was problematic and not well attended for various reasons, and perhaps should be discontinued; but we kept the panel alive none the less. Being the Area 1 (Skid Row) supervisor was a short lived experience, but it stays with me. I live in downtown LA and see folks living on the street every day. It is heart breaking. As individuals we do our best to help sometimes, but it is crucial for AA, and its loving arm H&I, to be available to those that are willing to listen. I am anxious to find more opportunities for H&I to be available to serve the underserved communities. One of my first panels many years ago was at Volunteers of America (VoA) in Skid Row. That panel did more to help me stay sober than anything I can

remember. Dozens of men and women gathering together to find a solution in a tough part of the city is an experience that I



will cherish. I am working to open up VoA Centers, as well as missions and shelters, for us to serve. We have a few, but there are so

many more that we are not going to. Won't you help? If you know of any facilities that may need our services, please let me know. Last month a gentleman from a VoA facility approached me and said that their center would like a panel. Because he took this initiative, we hope to add panels there this month.

I visited that skid row panel that was “problematic” a couple of weeks ago. The leader had brought in a circuit speaker, the panel was packed. The only problem was that I almost didn't give it a chance.

*Gregory Gardner*

*AA H&I Hospitals Director*

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