

Delegate Report  
CoDA Service Conference 2019,  
Atlanta, Georgia  
for the  
Southern California Intergroup  
2019 Delegates: Kirsten & France, Delegate 1 & 2  
Rosa, Alternate Delegate

On Sunday, September 8, 2019 through Thursday, September 12, 2019, Co-Dependent Anonymous held the Annual CoDA Service Conference in Atlanta Georgia. CoDA Board of Trustees, CoDA World Service Committees and delegates from various Voting Entities gathered to provide reports regarding their service and to pass motions at the World level.

The conference initiated on Sunday, September 8, 2019 with a training video presentation for all CSC delegates. A reception was held to welcome all delegates. The 2019 CoDA service conference began on Monday, September 9, 2019 with CoDA members present from several states in the USA as well as International members from countries such as Mexico, Colombia, Israel, United Kingdom and Canada. International members from Guatemala, Costa Rica, Russia and Iran also participated via video conference. During the conference CoDA World service committees such as Literature, IMC, Board, Outreach, H & I, SSC, Spanish Outreach, TMC, WCC, CoNNection, and Communications presented their reports. Motions presented by CoDA Board of Trustees, SSC, SPO, Ad Hoc, Literature, Outreach, Events, CoRe, CSC and Finance committees as well as VEIs from different states and countries were withdrawn, tabled, and/or passed with a 2/3, UNANIMOUS or a MAJORITY vote.

Voting Entities from different states and countries presented their VE reports. Hearing what other countries are doing to promote CoDA was a delight not only to learn about their countries and culture, but also to see and hear the amazing growth of CoDA in many of these countries.

On Friday, September 13, 2019, the International CoDA convention began with great keynote speakers and workshops on many recovery topics. Attendees had the opportunity to choose among three workshops in certain timeslots and also enjoy keynote speakers. On Sunday, September 15, it was time to say our goodbyes, not before sharing our contact information with many newfound friends from within the USA as well as from around the world.

From the many motions that were discussed and voted on (detailed notes are available in a separate document), the following provide some highlights:

6. The CoDA Board passed a motion to allow video conferencing at CSC, where it was immediately put into practice with international delegates voting and presenting via video conference!
7. Literature passed three motions to update three pamphlets for reprinting: "What is CoDA?", "Attending Meetings", and "Am I Codependent?"
3. The CoDA Board created a public service announcement that can be used to spread the message
  - a. Was made professionally for about \$5000
  - b. Looking for donations to help offset costs
4. H & I committee needs members who are willing to be sponsors for inmates through the mail
5. The CoDA Board passed a motion to open up Canada for many more delegates, 2 for each province AND maintain 2 for the "country" (SoCal split our vote as it was deemed too open)
6. The CoDA Board passed a motion that a person can no longer simultaneously hold the position of Chair of a standing committee and be a delegate for a VEI (and a committee is being formed to look at capping the votes of the CoDA Board to 4 rather than one for every member)
7. Spanish Outreach committee passed a motion to provide all published CoDA Spanish literature in digital format on Kindle/iBook
  - a. Crafting added "all translated Spanish literature be published in printed and digital format within six months"
8. Events committee announced 2020 CSC in Ottawa, Canada, July 24-26, and 2021 in South Dakota
9. NoCal VEI passed making two pieces of literature "CoDA endorsed": "Twelve Tips for Sponsors" and "Getting Started Working Step 1, 2 and 3 – Using the 30 Questions"
10. CORE is very busy with an updated Sponsorship pamphlet coming out, a new warehouse in California (Simi Valley), 11 new Spanish products coming out, a new 33 year medallion, an updated online store, and providing 66% of CoDA's income
11. New Business: SSC presented a motion from a Florida VEI to change Tradition #11: "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films and all other public forms of media." This only passed by simple majority, and the Board has subsequently said they will not carry out that as they are bound to protect the foundational documents. For it to pass it would need a 2/3 majority vote at CSC to override the CoDA Board
12. The new board was solidified with some new members, including one from NorCal, with Nancy O. from Canada as the new Chair

Recommendations from 2019 delegates for next year (2020):

1. Need to get more background on motions to the fellowship
  - a. July CSC in 2020
  - b. Have a session at the SoCal conference just prior to discuss motions
  - c. Survey will then be available for voting with more info
  - d. Perhaps could also have a teleconference for questions/discussions
  - e. Pro/con's could also be included in the survey itself?
  - f. Arizona hosts a teleconference before every CSC – could SoCal do the same
  - g. Could that also be co-hosted with NorCal and SoCal?

## VEI's from SoCal?

1. It was requested by a SoCal fellowship member to see if it would be possible to include in the delegate packet (provided by the Events Committee) a summary of what is changing or has been proposed to change? Something similar to the following:

*Some motions on the table include (from CSC 2019):*

- *Removing the foundational documents as a requirement at meetings*
  - *Removing the following questions from the Am I Codependent pamphlet- "Do you have to believe in God to belong to CoDA?" "What is the difference between CoDA, Al Anon and ACA?" "Can you recommend any books, therapists, hospitals that treat codependence?"*
  - *Adding Crosstalk to the Attending Meetings pamphlet*
  - *Adding a brief history of CoDA to the What is CoDA pamphlet*
2. A procedural motion was voted in just for CSC 2019, presented by Kirsten, to add 30 seconds of time to connect with each individual's and the collective HP before each vote. There was very positive feedback after it was put into place, and SoCal now has the opportunity to submit a VEI to make that part of the procedures for CSC, and the Service Structure Committee has said they will work with SoCal to get that motion in for 2020.