

Delegates Corner, Panel 69, March 2019

What remote communities exist in our Area and in our districts?

This question has been on my mind for a while and I share it as I sit here reflecting on the inclusive and loving experience many of us had attending the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) in Irvine. The multiplicity of languages and experiences we received from the podium made me reflect on the enormous opportunity that faces us as we refine not our *message*, but the *methods*, by which we carry it.

What has become clear to us in California Northern Coastal Area 06 over recent years is the extent to which Spanish-speaking women are a remote community. What others exist and, how will we discover them, receive their input, and act upon it? In short, where does responsibility rest in our Area for remote communities?

At the most elemental level, the answer can be found in our Responsibility Declaration, which declares, "*I am responsible...*" For me, this means to be welcoming to all those who seek us out, whether they look like me, or not. But what then? Just as an individual and a home group lack the resources to meet all needs, how will these needs then be met?

One of the reasons we have districts, intergroups, areas, and other service committees is to coordinate services that members and groups cannot do by themselves.

Last year the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee for the Conference (which I now get to serve on) added Remote Communities to its scope of responsibilities. This year the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee gets to review the draft of the proposed Remote Communities Kit (Treatment and Accessibilities Committee: Item E). To help me do that I am asking you to let me know at our Pre-Conference Assembly, what your groups think about the contents of the kit. To do that requires us to think about what remote communities exist in our districts and Area.

So, I come full circle. What remote communities should we be serving? Once we know that, we can begin to figure out how our current structure facilitates that, or not.

In love and service,

Teddy B.-W.
CNCA06 Panel 69 Delegate