

Essential Elements of a RR In-Person Group

Any two or three RR members who meet regularly to help each other gain freedom from addiction using the the RR Essential Elements of a Meeting may call themselves a RR meeting. Any Refuge Recovery member or members may start a RR meeting. RR meetings are events at which we share with one another our experience in recovery and our practice of the Refuge Recovery program.

When RR meetings are held regularly, it soon becomes clear that someone needs to be responsible for all the tasks needed to keep the meeting running, to get the word out to others about the meeting and to teach and encourage new RR members about how to support their meeting through group service. When the members see the need to delegate these responsibilities an RR group is formed.

Simply put, the RR group does the business of the weekly meeting. The group is responsible for ensuring that the meeting is held when scheduled. The group is responsible for holding group elections and teaching new members how to do service in Refuge Recovery. The group is also responsible for ensuring the meeting is run according to RRWS guidelines and communicates regularly with other Refuge Recovery groups and Refuge Recovery World Services.

RR Groups are the foundation of the Refuge Recovery service structure. To ensure the democratic decision making process and rotating leadership called for in our guiding principles all listed Refuge Recovery meetings are to be held by RR groups established in the first six months of each meetings formation.

To ensure a consistent democratic and trustworthy voice between all RR groups the following are established as common essential elements of all RR in-person groups:

1. The Refuge Recovery Group purpose is to make RR available to all who seek the RR program by holding meetings, by encouraging all

members to give back to RR through service and to train new members in how to form and operate RR groups.

2. RR in-person meetings started by an individual have a 6 month initial formation period to form a RR Group.

3. RR in person groups announce and hold regular group business meetings at least quarterly.

4. RR in person group volunteers consist of at least a Meeting Secretary, and a Group Representative. Trusted Volunteers will be elected for a designated period of time with a minimum period of abstinence of at least :

3 months — Meeting Secretary

6 Months — Group Representative

3. RR group business meetings are chaired by an elected Group Representative. This representative must be a different person than the meeting Secretary.

4. RR In-Person Group officers consist of at least a Group Rep, a Recording Secretary and a Treasurer. In very small groups the Recording Secretary and Treasurer duties can be combined. Group Officers will be elected for a designated period of time with a period of at least :

13 months — Recording Secretary

13 months — Treasurer

13 months — Group Representative

5. All RR members are welcome to attend and observe RR Group business meetings. Qualified RR members are encouraged to vote on group motions.

6. Each RR Group will set the voting qualifications for members of their group. In order to create a stable overall RR Service structure, all RR Groups will offer at least the following minimum qualifications for voting in RR group business meetings:

To have attended the RR meeting held by the group for at least three occasions with the intention of regular attendance.

To have a thirty day period of abstinence from all recreational drugs and alcohol and any process addiction bottom lines.

7. All RR Groups use the group unanimity method of voting described in the “RR Groups-Voting and Quorum” pamphlet.