

4th EDITION 2010

NEWSLETTER



SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS
WORLD SERVICE OFFICE
P.O. Box 190
Benson, MD 21018
(410) 893-3322
www.siawso.org
<http://siawso.flyingcart.com>

28 years helping survivors thrive!

MISSION STATEMENT:

We empower those who have survived child sexual abuse (who are not abusing any child), who want to become survivors and thrivers. Using our experience, strength and hope, we do this by:

- offering referrals to SIA, self-help, support groups
- providing information to start SIA groups, intergroups, and national service offices
- creating and distributing SIA information tools (literature, newsletter, electronic media)
- offering a speakers' bureau
- guiding SIA's public information efforts worldwide

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WE CONTINUE TO GROW

We would like to welcome the following new groups to our SIA family:

CALIFORNIA: Oakland, Fabiola Bldg. Kaiser Hospital, Wednesday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm
Pasadena, Saturday, 10:30 A.M. - 12:00 noon

COLORADO: Grand Junction, Connection Church, Wednesday, 6:30- 8:00

ILLINOIS: Chicago, Saturday, 4 pm to 5:30 PM

NEW JERSEY: Neptune, Monday, 7:15pm - 8:30pm

TEXAS: Austin, Thursday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm the second and fourth Thursdays of the month

ENGLAND: London, Thursday, 7 to 8-30 pm

ONLINE: chat room <http://www.paltalk.com> Monday

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ENCLOSED ARE THE DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE HELD ON August 6, 7, and 8, 2010

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MidAtlantic Intergroup's Retreat

April 15-17, 2011 in PA.

Flyer to follow

The Mid Atlantic Intergroup is busy planning the Retreat which will be held near Philadelphia on April 15, 16, 17. We realize it is Palm Sunday but will provide list of churches at your request. The Intergroup has a lot planned for continued healing, and we are always open to suggestions. If you have any suggestion or requested workshops, please email Kathy at Kathyhywd@aol.com. We already have many people interested in coming. This is a great opportunity for healing, fellowship with other survivors/thrivers and also fun. Hope to see you there. Don't forget to put that weekend on your calendar.

Mid Atlantic Intergroup

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HOW TO PUT ON A RETREAT?

In case you missed it.....For the 7th time in 14 years our tiny meeting has hosted a retreat. Once more it was magical as 35 survivors came from as far as Atlanta and Canada. The word "family" seemed to be the unofficial theme as we reminded one another that it is "never too late to have a happy childhood"

How do we do it? Well, sometime after the last retreat, a theme starts to emerge sometimes based on feedback from attendees, sometimes coming from our little home-group's current recovery process.

Once we have our theme and choose a date, we get out save the date reminders to the

WSO. This can happen anywhere from 6-8 months ahead of time.

We have stumbled upon a simple structure for the retreat, which takes a lot of work off our shoulders. We try to think of 3 aspects of our theme, and then we use SIA literature to generate questions/affirmations around that theme. These questions/affirmations become the format for the workshops. This allows for any attendee to pick up the format and "facilitate" the workshop, which is very important because there are only a handful of us in the area and we could not possibly lead all the workshops. We also ask members of SIA that we have met at other retreats if they would like to organize a workshop of their choice.

We fit all this into a schedule, which allows for walks, naps, and SIA meetings. We are sure to remind each other that this retreat is for us too! Each time we get together to plan or work on the retreat we have food and enjoy the fellowship. Service at this level is so rewarding because it is teaching us all how to get along, give up control, but also say how we feel in the safest of all environments.

We always worry a little that other survivors won't come, but soon the registrations start coming in and before we know it we are with our dear "family". Some we have known for a while and some we have just met. The healing power of a gathering of survivors cannot be matched anywhere else in my life. For this reason, I will continue to attend and help to host SIA retreats.

Becky G. –grateful recovering incest survivor. Uniontown, Monday Night-People of Courage

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THANKS

Thanks to all the men who went to the Oprah show for the taping of "Men abused by Men" program. It was a great healing, educational show!

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FROM THE TREASURER

SPECIAL THANKS to all who sent in donations. It is the ONLY way we can keep up the good fight!

The following groups and intergroups that donated in the last 3 months are listed below. The WSO is extremely grateful for their financial support!

INTERGROUP/RETREAT: Uniontown Retreat *

CALIFORNIA: San Diego; Oakland Kaiser Permanente, Fabiola Building Room G70 Wed 6:00 pm; Hollywood

FLORIDA: WINTER PARK;

ILLINOIS: Downers Grove

NEW JERSEY: New Jersey Mays Landing; New Jersey Mays Landing; New Jersey Mays Landing; Sat. AM Westmont Be Gentle With Yourself;

NEW YORK: Albany;

NEW JERSEY: Sat. AM Westmont Be Gentle With Yourself;

* \$100 or more

** \$200 or more

*** \$300 or more

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**NEW
INTERGROUP POSTS**

Intergroups Make A Difference!

By: John M.

In July of 2009, members of the two Pasadena SIA meetings came together to form an Intergroup. As we sat on that warm summer day discussing what an Intergroup might be, we decided that we want other survivors to know there are safe places to come, heal and be heard. After that meeting, we set out to let other SoCal SIA chapters know what we were doing. Members from many of them have attended at least one of our quarterly meetings. Moreover, email communication between chapter members is skyrocketing. Many of us have been visiting meetings we've never been to before and finding other survivors to connect and share with. This energy is infectious in the best of all possible fashions.

In the last year, since Intergroup was reestablished, the *number of SIA meetings in Southern California has doubled, local chapters are reporting growth in meeting size, and we're working collectively on a number of exciting projects.* Right now our Intergroup has three standing committees:

Outreach, Education, and Safety. The outreach committee is currently working on an e-blast to send meeting info about SIA meetings to various therapists and social agencies in Southern California. It also has a hotline and email address where folk can make inquiries about meetings. Our education committee is hoping to host a healing day with non-stop meetings and workshops within the year. And our safety committee has done a training panel and been creating and disseminating documents about how to keep meetings safe. Additionally, an Intergroup newsletter has been created and new types of meetings are emerging, including anger/grief release and step-writing meetings. *It's amazing the difference a year can make when survivors come together.* If you have any questions about what we're doing in Southern California SIA Intergroup, would like to receive our newsletter or would like copies of our meeting safety documents feel free to write us at: siasocalintergroup@hotmail.com.

NOTE: If your Intergroup would like to write something for the next Newsletter, please get it to Linda by February 1, 2011.

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**REPORT ON SIA NAME CHANGE
AND PERPETRATORS AT MEETINGS**

If you would like a copy of the report with all of the responses, please send a 9 x 11 manila envelope and we'll be happy to send it to you.

We're working on refining the Perpetration Statement with prior and current membership feedback in mind, and furthermore, we are seeking written legal opinion concerning perpetrators at meetings. In this way, we are insuring that SIA, as a whole, is protected from liability.

There is a small group of people who are working on the statement. If you'd like to help, please send an email to:

responsetoreport@yahoo.com

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**SURVEY IS COMING SOON!
MAKE SURE YOUR GROUP IS REGISTERED**

The most popular **name change** was adding: *“for Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse.* We won't change the name; it will remain the same. The addendum, in italics, will simply be put on everything that already has the SIA name on it.

If your group is registered, you can expect a survey concerning the name change and other issues. If your group is not registered, or if your group secretary isn't active, you'll want to let the WSO know the name and address for the current contact person.

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DID YOU KNOW?

*New groups can be added and old groups updated online. There are **many** more meetings in the hardcopy directory than the online directory? Does your meeting want to be listed online? Have you checked lately to see what your online listing says? All of this can be accomplished quite efficiently by going to www.siaawso.org and following the steps. If you have any questions please email Becky at hrsrgart@zoominternet.net*

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**FREE via EMAIL!!
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS
RETREAT INFO
NEW LITERATURE**

The SIA World Service Office has created a low-volume, announcement-only mailing list to share news within the fellowship. Items sent out over this list will include retreat information, notification of events, the quarterly newsletter, and more. Your email address will be kept strictly confidential, and you may unsubscribe at any time.

To be added to SIA's mailing list, please send an email to:

siaawso+subscribe@googlegroups.com

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MISSING PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS?

Look on-line at www.siaawso.org. You can find some of them there.

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WANT YOUR OPINION TO BE HEARD?

Why not join one of the following World Service Committees?

- Literature
- Finance
- Outreach
- Group Concerns
- Conference committee
- (*By-laws and planning 2010 and *Conference structure and Conference Planning)

If so, please contact Elias at:
ecolombotos@yahoo.com

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**DID YOU MOVE?
DID YOUR AREA CODE OR PHONE NUMBER CHANGE?**

If so, please notify us so we can save on postage for undeliverable mail, and survivors will be able to find your group.

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SERVICE VOLUNTEERS – MOST APPRECIATED

We love volunteers at the World Service Office. General office work is needed. If you can get to Exit 74 off of I-95, we would love to have you help out. **If you can volunteer only once or regularly,** we can use the help! Please call 410.893.3322 and leave a message for Linda. (The # button bypasses the long answering machine message.)

Thank you!

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**MATCHING GIFT?
AUTOMATIC DEDUCTION?
DONATIONS FOR YOUR TIME?**

Does your employer have a matching gift policy? When you send in \$50.00, your employer will match it. So, **your \$50.00 donation becomes \$100.00!** Please check it out.

Does your employer have automatic deductions for non-profits? If so, please consider **designating SIA World Service Office as the beneficiary.**

☺**Thank you** for anything you can do to help!

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**RECOVERY WORK
CAN NOW BE FOUND AS AN INSERT**

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