

VARIABLES in the NA FELLOWSHIP

For a system to be truly effective it must be able to function in the many different conditions NA encounters around the world.

Some communities are very large, while some are much smaller.



Population density can vary, with both rural and urban communities found within NA. These can have varying levels of resources available to them.

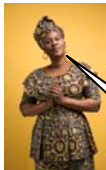
Geographical factors like terrain, climate, and distance from other NA communities influence how we provide services. An island community clearly faces different challenges from a mountainous one.



Many communities do not speak English, while others speak many different languages within a single country. Our system needs to accommodate producing material in all these languages.



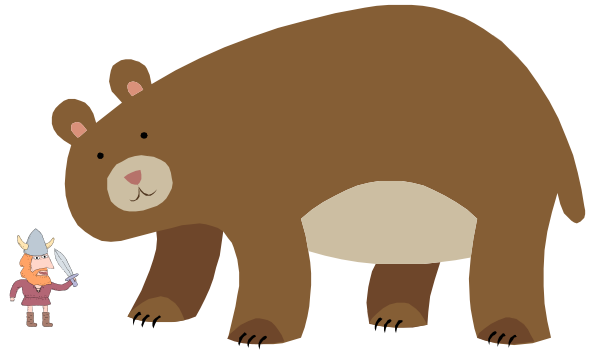
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For some a regional meeting may be a short drive away, while others may face a longer journey.



Economics, literacy and access to technology can all vary significantly in different communities, affecting resource availability, the relative cost of literature, access to service material and many other factors.





Social factors like political, legal, cultural and religious attitudes towards addiction and NA affect our ability to carry the message. We also have to deal with differing rules at the many institutions we go into in order to carry the message, whether they are prisons or treatment centers. We may encounter suspicion, lack of acceptance, or laws that restrict our ability to meet. We may also benefit from cooperative relationships with different types of institutions and acceptance of the NA program by influential groups such as governments and the medical community.



And maybe the biggest differences lie within us as members, in terms of age, diversity, recovery and service experience, and what we are willing and able to do as NA members and trusted servants.



A system that can encompass all these variables has its work cut out – but it may help to remember that we all share one thing in common – our primary purpose to share our message of recovery from the disease of addiction.

