

Co-Dependents Anonymous

PO BOX 33577, Phoenix, AZ 85067-3577

Application for Board of Trustees of Co-Dependents Anonymous, Inc.

DATE: 4/1/2023

NAME: Bryle S

VOTING ENTITY: Arkansas

{X} Alternate Trustee

1) Describe your current working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and the CoDA foundational documents, such as the Fellowship Services Manual, By-laws, etc.

I have been practicing the 12 Steps and Traditions in my life for well over three decades. I have a working knowledge of the CSM and CoDA By-Laws. I am a firm believer in following the Traditions. The Traditions are what prevent our recovery program from devolving into a social club.

2) Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees?

I want to be of service, and I believe I have something to offer.

3) Describe your service work on Meeting, Intergroup, Voting Entity level, including number of years of service.

I have served at many different levels of Twelve Step service since 1985. The past 4 of those years have been in World Service. I'm currently on CoDA Outreach committee and the Issues and Mediation Committee.

4) Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of CoDA, such as experience negotiating contracts, general business management, or any other relevant skills.

I have a Master of Social Work degree and am retired as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. I was also credentialed as a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor. I have some grant writing, funding seeking experience. I am also a disabled veteran (Air Force, 71-75) In my past I was also an accomplished tradesman (machinist).

5) Share your:

a. Experience with the group conscience process.

Quite a bit. In my 38 years in 12 step recovery I have held every service position in the group and intergroup level and I have participated in and facilitated many group consciences.

b. Courage to express yourself, ability to listen, and ability to communicate effectively.

Well, I am a professional listener, Social Worker (or a professional Codependent.)

c. Ability to manage interpersonal differences and accomplish goals as a group member.

I am usually able to find a consensus in most conflicts.

6) The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

I am retired. I have adequate time.

7) Please share your vision for CoDA.

My first thought is Tradition 5, "Each group has but one primary purpose: to carry its message to other codependents who still suffer." At the Board of Trustees level perhaps we best practice Tradition 5 by helping the groups carry the message. My vision, hope, and dream is for CoDA to continue to grow and become stronger.

8) Please indicate when you last attended a CoDA Service Conference (CSC) including the current year, as either a delegate or trusted servant. Also, explain your understanding and knowledge of the CSC based on your past attendance.

I attended CSC in 2022 as a delegate and I plan to attend in 2023 as a trusted servant. As I understand it, the CSC is where the behind-the-scenes work gets done which enabled CoDA to function.

9) Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process.

I have served on the boards of several non-profits and have experience in grant writing.

Keeping in mind the non-professional nature of CoDA (Tradition Eight), I would like for codependency to one day be considered as a primary cause of all addictions. My master's thesis was on researching the efficacy of providing codependency treatment to chronic relapsing alcoholics and drug addicts, the premise being that the addictions were being used by many codependents to mitigate the symptoms of their codependency. Codependents Anonymous is, in my humble opinion, the most effective (and cost efficient) method of treatment for codependency.