

## CODEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS

World Service Business Conference WSC ATLANTA 8th - 12th September 2019  
(Followed by CoDA Convention until 15th)

Well - what can I Report on WSC. An exhausting but amazing experience. I was met with great Fellowship and Friendship in Atlanta and from certain members of the Board - copious amounts of Experience Strength Hope and Knowledge of how WSC works. All interlinking [coda.org](http://coda.org) and WSC with a plethora of International CoDA Meetings throughout the World.

I learnt about the 30 Second Rule, Crafting, The Power of Five, the God Box. Learnt about Outreach, ORG and Hospitals & Institutions - H & I. For Public Information there was also a video about Codependency - short & sweet – but extremely informative - produced by the outgoing Chair of WSC - Jenny.q - (I will be also able to pass on much of this knowledge to both CoDA NSC, CoDA North Intergroup and local and nationally in my capacity as CoDA NSC Literature Secretary in individual texts and at Meetings and Retreats). Regarding the Public Information Film we would just need (if at all necessary) an English voice-over - but I am sure the American version would do.

Conference has approved the North California '30- Questions for Sponsees' and the '10-Tips for Sponsors' Literature. Very helpful for Newcomers or members wishing to work through the first 3 Steps of CoDA either with a Sponsor or co-sponsor. They have a miniature Prayer Booklet - I have some as gifts and some bookmarkers and a big HELLO from CoDA Atlanta Georgia.

At WSC - They have an Ad Hoc Committee which does a lot of 'Blue-Sky' thinking. They have an active CoDA Literature Committee which I have volunteered to join and make sure new Literature gets processed and is hurried up into production plus assessing new literature is vetted and brought to WSC for Voting Entity etc. ASAP. Seems very entrenched and slow-moving but I suggested they print out a new leaflet for the 20 'In Codependence We ....but In Recovery ..' They said they hadn't seen it before and thought it was a good idea - I told them I took it off [coda.org](http://coda.org) website - but they said they had never seen it before ??? !!!

I represented the UK as your Delegate and was a Voting Entity for which I felt very honoured with you entrusting me with your confidence to make solid decisions for passing some very complicated (and some pretty simple) Motions - a mixture of both. We had to have a quorum of Voting Entities and qualify this before each Motion. Voting Entity on Zoom from the UK - Lorraine (who when I saw her up on screen I recognised and was able to communicate with after our first day's session). There were International Voting Entities represented on Zoom from all over the world. Seems that Zoom is here to stay !!!

We had on-line Voting Entities from Canada, Iran and Guatemala, Costa Rica and Colombia. We also had presentations at Conference Voting Entities from Mexico, Colombia, Canada, Israel and Reports on Zoom from Russia, South America and Iran. There was a most emotional point when this lovely fellow Reporting from Iran under very difficult circumstances and telling us how vibrant and vast CoDA is in Iran - the Israeli Delegate got up and spoke to Iran directly and offered any assistance as

they also have a thriving CoDA in Israel and are willing to communicate directly with them. Everyone applauded. Peace in the Middle East might just break out - Miracles do happen!!!

I was asked to give a 10 minute Report on CoDA UK. I reported - together with two UK flags at the microphone -that we had approx. 110 CoDA Meetings including Scotland, Wales and 1 in Belfast (and even 1 in Dublin ) - including photos of various towns around UK for added interest. Also spoke of our Goals for a National Phone Line and our difficulty getting people to give service and trying to promote Recovery Through Service!!! Told them of our Ken & Mary Weekend Workshops proposed for both London & Liverpool next month and people were asking for copies of any recordings that might be available.

However because they were running overtime at the end of Conference they didn't have sufficient time to vote for inclusion of our Long Version of the CoDA Serenity Prayer but I was assured if we get it in early next time it will be high on the list of inclusions in Ottawa in Canada for next year's 2020 CoDA WSC beginning on the 19th July. I was also asked to speak in Ottawa at their Convention following the Business Conference next year.

Looking back from Breakfast Meetings at 7am each morning of the CSC until 8 pm in the evenings attending various other extra important CoDA informative meetings it was a time of great CoDA Learning, Fellowship and Friendship and after our final meetings on the last day of Conference - which over-ran with late amendments - we went straight into the separate Atlanta World Service CoDA Convention which began on the Thursday night with an amazing share by a CoDA Board Member. Also please note my son Philip who lives in New York and a CoDA member accompanied me as an Official Observer (they too have a voice) funded by myself personally - and was of an amazing assistance and invaluable to both CoDA and myself and was also welcomed by the CoDA Board.

The Workshops Convention had a full Programme of Workshops from 9am Friday morning through until 1pm lunchtime on Sunday 15th September with a Friday Night Fellowship Dinner and Sunday morning Fellowship Breakfast. I also purchased CD's and MP3s of the whole Workshops at \$200 personally and purchased various Literature from CoRE official USA Literature publishers which have just recently re-located to California from the east coast of USA (NB I was funded for CSC ONLY (CoDA Service Conference) - and had to share a room (CoDA World Conference funding rules) - the Convention Attendance afterwards and stay at Hotel - and expenses - NOT covered By CoDA UK or [coda.org](http://coda.org) TRO - as in Fellowship Service Manual - ONLY Business Conference covered and paid for by CoDA).

I attended the Business Conference as Voting Entity (VE) to Represent CoDA UK and the NSC UK and as Literature Representative for UK. I went with the express purpose of re-connecting CoDA UK with the CoDA Board and especially the Literature Section of [coda.org](http://coda.org) ie CoRE - and to iron out any glitches occurring between US and UK CoDA. Also to give CoDA UK a voice at the Table of major policy decisions made on an International level. It was essential for CoDA UK to connect face-to-face personally with CoDA Worldwide. Made aware of various very important work carried out by Committees such as Public Information, Outreach and

Hospitals and Institutions (ie Prisons etc), Finance, Literature (which was very detailed), Communications, Issues and Mediation, Treasurers Report, CoRE, Translation Management, Election of the CoDA Board members, Ad Hoc - All dealt with in a highly democratic CoDA way adhering always to the CoDA Principles and CoDA Service Manual (FSM) - which was also discussed for amendment - together with the CoDA Concepts again up for review.

The whole experience of attending CSC was one not to be missed and again I am most grateful and honoured to have been given the opportunity of being CoDA UK's Delegate and VE. It was both exhausting but exhilarating as I had no knowledge of anyone else's experience as a VE - hence this Report.

I would encourage anyone who has worked the CoDA Programme as a way of life - in fact I would urge them - to put their name forward either as a VE or an Official Observer and to attend World Service Conference and afterwards the Separate Convention. It is a life-changing experience - not to be missed. Separate Intergroups from each country are allowed to send Delegates as long as they have been approved by their Committee. You can also serve as a Delegate VE by Zoom but must register. (NB I had to download two separate conference Motions and Amendments Reports for perusal and discussion with local representatives Committees in order to vote in a knowledgeable way - before Conference as no paper copies given out at venue).

Again thank you all for giving me the honour of representing you at WSC and being able to Carry The Message of Recovery and to pass on CoDA Experience, Strength and Hope by way of Step 12. Please see copy of World Service Conference Agenda below.

In Love, Gratitude and Fellowship  
Gillian  
VE Delegate for CoDA UK NSC  
NSC Literature Secretary