

Southeast Region – 2025 1st Annual Convocation Report

Recovery Ministry for Southeast Region

Recovery Ministry is a vital program for all the regions of the Missionary Diocese in Navajoland. A process that invites several different programs that welcomes recovery from a holistic approach like; The White Bison recovery program, or The Red Road to Wellbriety, or a more structured program like the Alcoholic Anonymous AA 12 steps recovery program. Even for the families who are continuing to fight for their loved ones to find sobriety, like the Al-Anon program that teaches grace to those who are journeying along the side of active users in addiction.

Southeast Region has committed to supporting recovery programs that already exist and just need a physical building to hold their meetings. The Good Shepherd Mission has been allocating meeting space and time as a priority for the “R-4-Thursday” open AA meeting for anyone who need a meeting. R-4-Thursday meet every Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, every Saturdays for “S-4-Sobriety” from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, and every second Fridays of the month for a special speaker potluck meeting from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. These meetings have been self-sustaining by their own budget, which is kept by their 7th tradition donations at every meeting, and an occasional food sale fundraiser. With these donations, a supply of AA Big books, AA daily reflections, and sobriety chips are available for those who need a Big Book to start their journey with the 12 steps. In addition, St. Marks Episcopal Church with “The Old Coal Miners Group” has also started to open their doors to start having open AA meeting every Tuesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

The Episcopal Church in Navajoland budget has some funds available for the recovery ministry. With some of these funds, a small group of “R-4-Thursday” members traveled to Farmington NM for a two-day training with Kindall Sam, an AA councilor from the NM chapter of recovery. This training was to help our small group to walk through the Big Book readings, in collaborations with the 12 steps process to strengthen our understanding of the recovery process. This was so that “R-4-Thursday” members might be able to become sponsors for the Fort Defiance AZ community.

Several members from the “R-4-Thursday” have also collaborated with other AA groups to write a Government Grant to build and start a Rehabilitation/Recovery center in Chinle AZ. In addition, other members have written other grants for AA recovery garden programs, to promote mediation spaces around the community gardens.

Rev. Leon Sampson