

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in AA

SHARE YOUR STORY

Let the hand of AA always be there

A diverse group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AA members from around Australia have formed a committee to develop this new stories book.

We are gathering stories from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AA members about their experience, strength and hope of working the 12 steps of AA in their lives.

See over the page for guidelines.

NEW DATE!! Send stories by 31st December 2020 to:

indigenouaobook2020@gmail.com

or

PO Box 1050, Newtown NSW 2042

You are welcome to join the book committee and teleconferences. For more info or a yarn contact:

Toni J on 0416 987 143

Meg W on 0400 073 358

This project was approved at the AA General Service Conference 2019. All stories will go through the AA Literature Committee, and for approval by Conference in November 2020.

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GUIDELINES FOR STORIES

PURPOSE

We have a vision for a book of stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's experience, strength and hope of working the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous in their lives—to carry the message to other alcoholics, and encourage identification by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

FORMAT

Lots of options... stories can be typed and emailed to us, or hand written and posted. You could record yourself speaking and send it to us to type, or we could arrange someone to listen to you and write. Stories can be short, or longer, up to 3500 words.

SUGGESTION FOR OUR MOB'S STORIES

We encourage you to speak your truth, and disclose in a general way 'what it was like, what happened, and what it is like now'. This book is about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people sharing personal stories to especially help other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people identify, so it is important to write from your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander perspective. Include connection to Country and culture, challenges in mainstream society, 'grave emotional and mental disorders', depression, suicide, underlying issues, intergenerational trauma and racism. There is no shame in telling our stories. We are one mob. We support each other and our communities. We must carry our messages to others who are still suffering—in cities, remote areas, workplaces, prisons etc.

GUIDELINES

Carry the message of recovery. Avoid references to people (real or fictitious), places, brand names, organisations or institutions. Avoid statements of personal opinion on e.g. politics, organisations, religion or medication. Remember AA's singleness of purpose: although other addictions may be part of your story, keep the story focused on your recovery from alcoholism.

We will include stories from all around Australia and from all backgrounds including Elders, long-term sobriety, young people, LGBTIQ, men, women... our diversity.

We'll use your first name plus surname initial as author, like stories in the Big Book.

The book will be printed in large font, include some history and places for help. It will also be in audio form.

We can help with editing. We'll get your approval before publishing.

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