

## ***What is a Refuge Recovery Inter-Sangha?***

A Refuge Recovery Inter-sangha is a service committee composed of elected representatives from each Refuge Recovery group in a defined area. The Inter-Sangha is created to serve the shared needs of all Refuge Recovery groups in a defined area. Refuge Recovery Inter-Sangha are open only to Refuge Recovery groups who use the Refuge Recovery program and meeting formats as described in the book *Refuge Recovery: A Buddhist Inspired Path to Recovery From Addiction*.

Refuge Recovery supports the recovery principle that each group operates independently, *except in matters affecting other groups or Refuge Recovery as a whole*. Inter-Sangha is the forum where individual meetings come together to vote on shared policy that affects other meetings and Refuge Recovery as a whole.

## ***Why create a local Inter-Sangha?***

To increase the ability of individual Refuge Recovery meetings to communicate our purpose of helping those suffering from all forms of addiction through the RR program.

To increase overall community awareness of the Refuge Recovery program. Specifically to increase local treatment centers, detox facilities and outpatient

providers knowledge of and access to, the RR program.

To support the creation of new Refuge Recovery meetings within our service area.

To create unity among local Refuge Recovery meetings. Through the process of our transparent, democratic, group vote we resolve conflict among our groups and members. To provide democratically elected representatives to represent our local groups at the state, regional and world levels.

### ***Who can attend an Inter-sangha Meeting?***

All members of Refuge Recovery are welcome at Inter-Sangha meetings and are welcome to participate in discussion. Only officers and Sangha Representatives may vote on business matters.

### ***What does the local Inter-Sangha do?***

Produce and maintain up to date meeting lists and contact information for all local meetings.

Increase awareness of our program of recovery to those still suffering from addiction through providing information and RR meetings to hospitals, detox facilities, outpatient groups, schools and other institutions. A standing committee is created by local

Inter-Sangha to perform this function.

Working along side Refuge Recovery World Services, local Inter-Sangha may operate a local website and social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

Helping our member RR groups with questions, and problems relating to our shared purpose. Helping our member RR groups to connect with our World Service organization.

Maintain an Inter-Sangha treasury comprised of funds raised at local events and from dana donated regularly by local meetings. Local Inter-Sangha use these donated to funds to:

Provide information to the addict who still suffers through providing RR books and RR pamphlets to local treatment centers, detox facilities, outpatient providers and other institutions who hold RR meetings.

Provide funding to send our member representatives to state, regional and world service conferences.

Provide local RR groups with resources such as RR books, RR pamphlets.

Provide funding for annual events including contributions to the state or province service committee to hold an annual service convention.

Each Inter-Sangha in a state or province contributes dana regularly to Refuge Recovery World Services. RRWS is responsible for the overall stability and health of the Refuge Recovery organization worldwide.