

Annual Appeal Letter from Your Virtual Region - we need your help to carry the message!

To: Service Bodies, Groups, and Members of the Virtual Region of Overeaters Anonymous:

Your contribution makes a huge difference for the Virtual Region. Thank you! What we've been able to achieve in the past year is outstanding. We're taking a few minutes to share some of the wonderful new ways we've been able to put your 7th Tradition contributions to work.

We know that we have a solution to compulsive eating, and the Virtual Region is charged with carrying the message across the globe. For the region to be fully self-supporting, we all need to help get the word out to those who struggle with compulsive eating like we do.

This appeal asks you to contribute beyond what you regularly do.

Here's how you can show your support *beyond your regular 7th Tradition contribution*:

Donate directly online at

<https://oavirtualregion.org/seventh-tradition/>



Or, scroll down on the web page for the PayPal link

(please screen share for 1 minute to allow time to make contributions)

Please consider recurring contributions by month, or quarter, to reduce fees and to keep it simple for both you and for the region. This can be done through the same link.

In loving service and gratitude,

The Board and Trusted Servants of the Virtual Region of Overeaters Anonymous

The Virtual Region of Overeaters Anonymous Inc. is a non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Your contribution to the VROA may qualify for an income tax deduction in accordance with United States Federal and/or State income tax laws. Please consult with your tax advisor to determine whether your contribution is tax-deductible in whole or in part. Nothing in this communication is intended to constitute legal or tax advice. The OAVR EIN is 83-1844157.

Please see the next page to read how the Virtual Region uses your contributions to carry the message to the still sick and suffering.

Annual Appeal Letter from Your Virtual Region

[Meeting Secretary or Chair, please read 3 or 4 of the bullet points on this page or paste all in your chat. Please coordinate with other meeting leaders to read all of them over the course of the month, but no more than 3 or 4 at a time.]

How the Virtual Region uses your contributions to carry the message to the still sick and suffering

1. We hosted several open houses during the year, welcoming newcomers, returning members, and current members. These attracted hundreds of participants from all parts of the globe, speaking many languages. Our most recent open house, in January, had more than 750 participants, over 400 of whom were newcomers. Our social media, open house, and convention welcome center, all in preparation for our convention, made over five million impressions and led to 6,000 direct messenger conversations from interested newcomers. We maintain five outreach Facebook pages in five languages with 15,203 followers, all generated from regional newcomer outreach.
2. To accommodate so many newcomers we created a “Welcome Center” at our Convention, and our digital committee launched a new website, “OAVirtual.Org,” where newcomers can get information and make appointments for one-on-one conversations with trained OA members.
3. In our efforts to create sponsors to serve all these newcomers, the region, along with a few of its intergroups, has run several *15-week Step Study Workshops*, and has created *Step 1, 2, and 3 Workshops* based on the OA 30 Questions. These workshops are being conducted in English and Spanish.
4. In an effort to support service above the group level and to support sponsorship, we held two Steps, Traditions and Concepts workshop. Interpretation for these workshops was provided in French, Greek, German, Spanish, Polish, Arabic and Farsi.
5. We held two Assemblies over the past year, both of which were well-attended and smoothly run. We have over 400 unaffiliated meetings in our region and undertaking outreach efforts to all of them.
6. To be certain we are serving our members as we hope, we are conducting a region-wide inventory, reaching out to committees, service bodies, intergroups, groups, and individual members.
7. Our re-invigorated Intergroup Outreach and Renewal (IGOR) Committee is revamping the renewal workshop and has planned a series of workshops for 2025. Members of this committee are also working with the Region Chairs Committee to create a Service Body Renewal Workshop that could be adopted by any service body within the fellowship.

8. We demonstrated the effectiveness of inter-regional cooperation in a workshop entitled “Working Together to Better Carry the Message.” Ninety-two members from all OA Regions attended one of the three-hour workshops.
9. Our targeted outreach to diverse populations has continued with social media posts and geographical posts in diverse communities. We have also created radio ads and social media posts directed at men, young people, and people of color.
10. The Virtual Region has 21 intergroups, 614 affiliated meetings, and 411 unaffiliated meetings and we are the first region in OA to have Specific-Focus Service Boards - the Secular Service Board, the Rainbow Service Board, and the Anorexic/Bulimic Service Board.
11. Our fifth annual Virtual Region Convention was held March 1 through March 3, 2024 and was a remarkably successful and inspiring event, with over 1,300 attendees from 39 countries, 500 of whom were newcomers. Meetings and workshops were held in three languages, newcomer meetings in four, and interpretation was offered in seven, including American Sign Language. Forty-two of the sixty-six workshops or meetings were supported by region service bodies and, most impressively, 392 members volunteered for service.

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