

NOW Chapter Report

To: NOW National Board

From: Bonnie Grabenhofer, Vice President and Paul Wommack, Network Administrator/Chapter Services

Date: March 3, 2016

Board Meeting: March 12-13, 2016

Chapter Services Staffing

Kristina Romines, the previous Field Organizer left NOW in early May 2015. She has not been replaced. Bonnie Grabenhofer did much of the chapter services work since then. Beginning in January 2016, Paul Wommack assumed chapter services responsibilities with an additional one day per week. Chapter Services include: creating annual reports; recording submissions, and reporting results; coaching chapters through chapter convening, deconvening, and mergers; assisting chapters as needed with reinstating and maintaining IRS tax-exempt status; ensuring that the IRS parent report is completed and submitted each year; filing new and revised chapter bylaws; and coaching/assisting chapters with social media.

Annual Reports

The deadline for submitting 2014 annual reports was Dec. 31, 2015. This report primarily uses the data submitted by chapters on that annual report.

In 2014, 73 annual reports were submitted. This decrease from the previous year in which 149 reports were submitted can be attributed to a decrease in active state and local chapters (from 200 to 151) and lack of staff capacity to encourage chapters to complete the reports. About 75% of active chapters completed annual reports for 2013 compared to about 50% for 2014.

Active Chapters

Chapters are considered **active** if they have at least 2 chapter officers and a valid address on file.

Chapters are considered **dormant** if they have fewer than 2 chapter officers or no valid address. There are currently 151 active state and local chapters. There are 31 active state chapters.

Dormant state chapters in need of revival are:

- Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia,
- Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi,
- Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma,
- South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

Social Media Presence

Chapters' social media presence decreased somewhat from 61% to 52.4%.

Rebate Eligibility

To be eligible for rebates chapters must have:

- At least 2 chapter officers with current memberships
- A valid address on file
- Submitted a current annual report or at least 2 consecutive annual reports in the last 3 years
- Cashed their last rebate check

In early 2016, 124 of 181 active chapters were eligible for rebates -- nearly 70%.

Convening Chapters

New chapters in various stages of convening or reconvening are:

Greater Portland NOW, Oregon; Southwest PA NOW; University of Virginia's college at Wise; New Haven NOW, CT; Connecticut NOW; Spokane NOW, WA; Texas chapter; and Oklahoma City NOW; Oklahoma NOW.