

Charter of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup

**Overeaters Anonymous
Silicon Valley Intergroup**

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CHARTER

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Article I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be OA Silicon Valley Intergroup.

Article II - PURPOSE

The primary purpose of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup is to carry the Overeaters Anonymous message of recovery through service to member groups and to foster the practice of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous as stated in OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Articles I, II and III..

Article III - HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall be in Santa Clara County, California at the place designated by the officers of the Intergroup.

Article IV - TWELVE STEPS

1. We admitted we were powerless over food - that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.

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11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us, and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Article V - TWELVE TRADITIONS

1. Our common welfare should come first. Personal recovery depends on OA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6. An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every OA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and other public media of communication.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

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Article VI - COMPOSITION

OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall be composed of OA groups which are registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous and with Intergroup.

Section 2

Each group may be represented at the meetings of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup by its duly selected Intergroup Representatives (IRs) or Alternate Representatives (ARs).

Section 3

The officers of the OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall consist, at a minimum, of a Chairperson, a Treasurer, and a Public Information Coordinator.

Section 4

The OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall not maintain a separate service board to facilitate the Intergroup in the achievement of its purpose. If a service board is necessary, The Silicon Valley Intergroup shall perform the functions of the service board. Any reference to board shall refer to officers and designated service position holders.

Section 5

The regular meeting of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall be held on the first Tuesday of every month, or on such other date as agreed upon by the officers of Intergroup.

Section 6

IRs or their designated alternate, Intergroup officers and designated service position holders, shall have a voice and a vote. No individual or group may have more than one vote. The Intergroup Chairperson may vote only to make or break a tie or in case of a secret ballot.

Section 7

All meetings of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

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Article VII - REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1

Each group may select by any method of its own choice, its representatives and alternates (IRs and ARs) to the meetings of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup.

Section 2

IRs and ARs should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and for their faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.

Article VIII - GROUPS

Section 1

Each member group shall be entitled to one IR and two ARs as needed.

Section 2

Any OA group may become a member of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup by registering with the Intergroup Secretary and with the World Service Office.

Article IX - LEGAL DISCLAIMER

Section 1

Upon the winding up and dissolution of this association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation or corporation, which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, or religious and/or scientific purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2

No part of the net earnings of this association shall ever inure to or for the benefit or be distributable to its members, except that the association shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the exempt purposes for which it was performed.

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Section 3

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an association exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Section 4

This association is organized exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 5

No substantial part of the activities of this association shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the association shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Article X - AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Amendments to this Charter may be proposed by any member group, Intergroup Representative, or Intergroup Board member and must be submitted to the Chairperson of OA Silicon Valley Intergroup at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which action is to be taken on the amendment. A copy of the proposed amendment by any member group, Intergroup Representative, officer or designated service position holder must be submitted to each member group in Santa Clara County at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which action is to be taken on the amendment. Submission to member groups shall be satisfied by 45 days publication on the Silicon Valley Intergroup website and telephone contact with the last phone number registered with the Silicon Valley Intergroup.

Section 2

A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the IRs, officers, and designated service position holders present and entitled to vote shall be necessary for adoption of an amendment to this Charter.