

## Unity with Diversity Resources

### Downloads from [oa.org](http://oa.org):

- *Unity with Diversity Checklist*
- OA's "Unity with Diversity" Policy

### Available from the OA bookstore at [bookstore.oa.org](http://bookstore.oa.org):

*A Common Solution:  
Diversity and Recovery* (#265)

*Black OA Members Share Their  
Experience, Strength, and Hope* (#285)

*To the Man Who Wants to Stop  
Compulsive Overeating, Welcome* (#290)

*A New Plan of Eating* (#144)

*Focus on Anorexia and Bulimia Packet*  
(#725)

*Many Symptoms, One Solution* (#106)

*OA Members Come in All Sizes* (#110)

*To the Young Person* (#280)

*Welcome Back, We Care! Packet* (#721)

## How to find OA

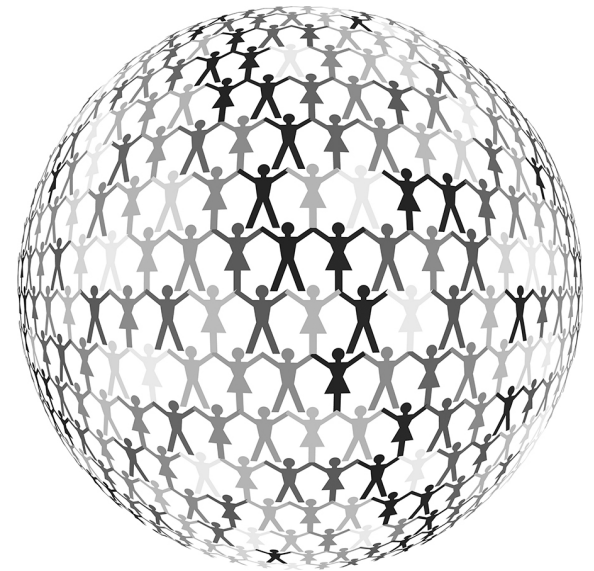
Visit the OA website at [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org),  
or contact the World Service Office  
at 1-505-891-2664.

Many directories also include  
local listings for  
Overeaters Anonymous.

Overeaters Anonymous  
World Service Office  
6075 Zenith Court NE  
Rio Rancho, NM 87144-6424 USA  
Mail Address: PO Box 44727  
Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4727 USA  
Tel: 1-505-891-2664  
Fax: 1-505-891-4320  
[info@oa.org](mailto:info@oa.org)  
[www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org)

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# Uniting with Diversity



**The only requirement  
for OA membership is a  
desire to stop eating  
compulsively.**

**Tradition Three**

## Individual differences within our Fellowship do not divide us; they unite us.

We recognize the importance of the individual and of each person's diverse approach in working our common program of recovery.

Thus, we:

- avoid suggesting that all OA members are the same;
- recognize that each person's concept of a Higher Power is unique;
- accept that our ways of practicing the OA Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions may vary; and
- honor and respect one another.

## How to support unity with diversity at your meeting

We welcome and give a voice to any person who has the desire to stop eating compulsively.

Thus, we:

- do not deny any member the opportunity to share;
- share items that highlight our common solution through diversity;
- read OA's Diversity Statement included in OA's *Suggested Meeting Format*; and
- look for opportunities to practice the OA Responsibility Pledge.

### OA Responsibility Pledge

*Always to extend  
the hand and heart of OA  
to all who share my compulsion;  
for this  
I am responsible.*

## Take a moment and think about your first OA meeting.

- Were you nervous?
- Did you share?
- Did you receive a *Where Do I Start?* pamphlet?
- Did OA members talk to you after the meeting?
- Did anyone follow up with you after the meeting?
- What could have been done to make you feel more welcome?

## Providing a welcoming environment for everyone is easy.

At OA meetings, be sure to:

- acknowledge and speak to everyone who shares our compulsion;
- ask yourself what measures you can take to provide meeting accessibility for everyone; and
- offer the same authentic welcome to everyone.

## “Unity with Diversity” Policy

THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous encourages and promotes acceptance and inclusivity. All are welcome to join OA and are not excluded because of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other attribute. We welcome all who share our compulsion. Everyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively is welcome in Overeaters Anonymous.

THE FELLOWSHIP recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approach(es) to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us.

THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of members, groups, and service bodies to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group, and service body to respect those rights as they extend the hand of fellowship to those who still suffer.

THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and service body to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any member to share his or her experience, strength, and hope in meetings regardless of the individual approach or specific concept that member may follow. Duly registered is defined as being in full compliance with Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V. (Business Conference Policy 1992a, amended 2013, 2021)