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At the 2014 National Convention, delegates voted to continue the strategic planning process using the Future of NARFE Committee report as its foundation. A Strategic Planning Team and a Standing Committee have been appointed, a process has been defined and work has begun to develop an evolutionary plan for NARFE's future success.

The Planning Team consists of two members of the National Executive Board, one National Officer and a senior member of the NARFE staff. Additional staff will be called upon for support. The 11-member Committee includes thought leaders of varied backgrounds from the NARFE membership. Members of the Configuration Advisory Board, a member group that works with the Association on IT matters, and eNARFE, our electronic chapter; those who have held officer positions in chapters and federations; long-term members; and those recently retired have been selected from across our 10 geographic regions.

The Future of NARFE Committee was tasked with casting a vision. Using its recommendations as a foundation, we will prioritize the recommendations, determining those with the greatest return that can be implemented in the first two-year cycle of the Committee. Some Future of NARFE recommendations were implemented following the 2014 Convention. Others will be deferred for later years' consideration.

Two-way communication with NARFE members is an essential element of the process. We have set up a dedicated email address, stratplan@narfe.org, for comments. While we cannot answer every email, all comments are important and will be given full consideration. Ongoing communication on the plan's progress will be scheduled throughout.

We hope you will embrace the planning process and the opportunities to strengthen NARFE, increase its effectiveness and support its growth for decades to come.