

FELLOWSHIP SHARING ON SELF SUPPORT

At the 2008 General Service Conference, the following Advisory Action was adopted:

That the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee gather input from the Fellowship on the benefits and liabilities, both spiritual and practical, of fully funding G.S.O. Services to the Fellowship (G.S.O. Functional expenses) by the voluntary contributions of A.A. members and groups and that this information be forwarded to the 2009 Conference Committee on Finance.

In order to stimulate discussion and to provide background on this topic, the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee has prepared the following background. The following is not intended to be exhaustive. Much has been written on the subject of self support in the annual General Service Conference Reports, which also include the annual audited financial statements of the General Service Board and its operating affiliates, A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.; in Conference approved books and pamphlets; in service material prepared by the G.S.O; and in many Grapevine articles.

TOPIC 1 - Spiritual Aspects of Self Support

Suggested reading:

"Tradition Seven" from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, published by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Pages 110 and 111 (beginning with "Let us now talk about money..." and ending with "It is the chief safeguard of our future") in *AA Comes of Age*, published by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

The following excerpts from 3 *AA Grapevine* articles written by Bill Wilson:

1. June 1946 "Policy on Gifts Funds" (Copyright © (June, 1946) AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission). This article appears in full in *The Language of the Heart*, published by AA Grapevine, Inc., beginning on page 28.

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Now what about donations or payments to A.A. from outside sources? There was a time some years ago, when we desperately needed a little outside aid. This we received. And we shall never cease being grateful to those devoted friends whose contributions made possible the Alcoholic Foundation, the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* and our Central Office. Heaven has surely reserved a special place for everyone of them. They met a great need, for in those days we A.A.s were very few and very insolvent!

But times have changed. Alcoholics Anonymous now has more than 24,000 members whose combined earnings this year ought to be many millions. Hence a very powerful feeling is spreading among us that A.A. ought to be self-supporting. Since most members feel they owe their very lives to the movement

they think we A.A.s ought to pay its very modest expenses. And isn't it, they ask, high time that we commenced to revise the prevalent idea that an alcoholic is *always* a person who must be helped--usually with money. Let us A.A.s, they say, be no longer takers from society. Instead, let us be givers. We are not helpless now. Neither are we penniless any more. Were it possible to publish tomorrow that every A.A. group had become fully self-supporting, it is probable that nothing could create more good will for us than such a declaration. Let our generous public devote its funds to alcohol research, hospitalization or education. Those fields really need money. But we do not. We are no longer poor. We can, and we should, pay our own way.

Of course, it can hardly be counted an exception to the principle of self support if a non-alcoholic friend comes to a meeting and drops a dollar in the hat. It is doubtful, too, if we should refuse the relative who sends in his \$5 mite; a token of appreciation for the recovery of someone close. Perhaps we would be ungracious to refuse his gift.

But it is not these small tokens of regard which concern us. It is the large contributions, especially those that may carry future obligations, which should give us pause. Then too, there is evidence that wealthy people are setting aside sums for A.A. in their wills under the impression we could use a great deal of money if we had it. Shouldn't we discourage them? And already there have been a few alarming attempts at the public solicitation of money in the name of Alcoholics Anonymous. Few A.A.s will fail to imagine where such a course could lead us. Every now and then we are offered money from so called "wet" or "dry" sources. Obviously dangerous, this. For we must stay out of that ill starred controversy. Now and then the parents of an alcoholic, out of sheer gratitude, wish to donate heavily. Is this wise? Would it be good for the alcoholic himself? Perhaps a wealthy A.A. wishes to make a large gift. Would it be good for him, or for us, if he did so? Might we not feel in his debt and might he not, especially if a newcomer, begin to think he had bought a ticket to that happy destination, sobriety?

In no case have we ever been able to question the true generosity of these givers. But is it wise to take their gifts? Though there may be rare exceptions, I share the opinion of most older A.A.s that acceptance of large donations from any source is very questionable--almost always a hazardous policy. The struggling club may badly need a friendly gift or loan. Even so, it might be better in the long run to pay as we go. We must never let any immediate advantage, however attractive, blind us to the possibility that we may be creating a disastrous precedent for the future. Strife over money and property has too often wrecked better people than us temperamental alcoholics! ...

2. November 1957 "Respecting Money" (Copyright © (November, 1957) AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission). This article appears in full in *The Language of the Heart*, beginning on page 218.

...

To conclude: Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility--one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and AA as a whole, will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.

When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer.

3. October 1967 "AA's Tradition of Self-Support" (Copyright © (October, 1967) AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission). This article, reprinted below in full, also appears in *The Language of the Heart*, beginning on page 349.

AA.'s far-flung Twelfth Step activities, carrying the message to the next sufferer, are the very lifeblood of our AA adventure. Without this vital activity, we would soon become anemic; we would literally wither and die.

Now where do AA's services--world-wide, area, local--fit into our scheme of things? Why should we provide these functions with money? The answer is simple enough. *Every single AA service is designed to make more and better Twelfth Step work possible, whether it be a group meeting place, a Central or Intergroup Office to arrange hospitalization and sponsorship, or the World Service Headquarters to maintain unity and effectiveness all over the globe.*

Though not costly, these service agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion--to our survival as a fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to a recognition on our part that AA must everywhere function in full strength--and that, under our Tradition of self-support, *we are all going to foot the bill.*

We have long known that Alcoholics Anonymous has no need for charitable contributions from any source. Our Fellowship is self-supporting. Neither do AA groups try to meet the rehabilitation expenses of thousands of newcomers. Long ago we learned that that was impractical.

Instead, AA offers to the new person a spiritual way of life that can eliminate the alcohol problem. With this accomplished, the new person, in the company of his fellow sufferers, can then begin the solution of his personal problems--including the financial one.

So AA groups themselves accept no charitable funds--and give none away. At first glance, this attitude may seem to be hard-nosed, even callous. An immense experience tells us otherwise. Money gifts--as a prerequisite of getting sober--are usually worthless when made a function of an AA group.

Of course, we see AA's primary charity in the Twelfth Step activities of tens of thousands of us as we daily carry the AA message to newcomers. We travel millions of miles; we absent ourselves from business and home. In the aggregate, we lay out very large sums. As individuals, we do not hesitate to give temporary financial aid to the newcomer, if and when he seems to want sobriety first. Here, then, is money charity aplenty, always given on a very personal, face-to-face basis. And perhaps even this cannot be called wholly charitable, since every Twelfth Step effort means more certain sobriety and added spiritual growth for the sponsor.

Both these principles we understand: that AA wants no charity; that we support our own services. We understand--but we sometimes forget.

TOPIC 2 - Practical Aspects of Self Support

1. Chart "General Service Office Functional Expenses" from the 2008 General Service Conference Report (attached separately)
2. Chart "2007 Contributions From Groups, Individuals, Specials, Special Meetings - by Delegate Area (in U.S. Dollars) (attached separately)
3. Full text of a G.S.O service piece ("Services provided by G.S.O./A.A.W.S.") prepared in 2006 at the request of Vince Keefe, Treasurer of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous:

The General Service Office

"...It serves as a clearinghouse and exchange point for the wealth of A.A. experience accumulated over the years, coordinates a wide array of activities and services, and oversees the publication, all translations of, and distribution of A.A. Conference-approved literature and service materials."

–*The A.A. Service Manual*,
page S73

SERVICES PROVIDED BY G.S.O./A.A.W.S.

Staff members on assignments help with group problems by sharing accumulated A.A. experience through extensive correspondence, phone calls, the A.A. Web site and by traveling, upon invitation, to A.A. events, and in keeping with Conference Advisory Actions will refer local matters to area delegates. Most staff members are assigned to handle correspondence from a specific geographic area. Equal services are provided in Spanish and French, whenever possible.

Cooperation With the Professional Community (C.P.C.)

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letter to newly listed Area C.P.C. Committee Chairs; C.P.C. Kit to Area C.P.C. Chairs; C.P.C. Workbooks to District/Other Chairs.
 - C.P.C. Literature Discount Package Order Form and C.P.C.-related service material.
- Coordinates the following:
 - A.A. exhibit at national conferences for professionals; refers local conference invitations to local committees.
 - *About A.A.* bulletin for professionals.
 - Every three years, hosts the Annual Day of Sharing with Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters and National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (N.C.A.D.D.).
 - Works closely with Publications Department and corresponding trustees' committee, coordinates literature and videos that fall under the purview of this assignment and per Advisory Actions applicable to A.A. Conference-approved literature.
- Provides periodic mailings (activity update reports) about 3-4 times a year to C.P.C. chairs.
- Responds to requests from C.P.C. committees for shared experience.
- Meets monthly with medical students of Cornell University Medical Center who visit G.S.O., and provides information about A.A.
- As liaison representative, attends national meetings of the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (N.I.A.A.A.) and Recovery Month planning meetings.
- Provides A.A. information in response to inquiries from professionals, and refers to local committees whenever appropriate.
- As secretary to trustees' and General Service Conference Committees on C.P.C., prepares agenda, background and minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees' committee following each board meeting to General Service Conference committee.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on C.P.C.
- Liaison to other Twelve Step Fellowships, such as Al-Anon, N.A., O.A., G.A., etc.

- Contact point for ‘special international contacts,’ such as International Pilots & Aviation Industry Professionals (“Birds of a Feather”), International Doctors in A.A., International Lawyers in A.A., I.C.Y.P.A.A., etc.

Corrections

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letter to newly listed Area/District/Other Corrections/H&I/BTG Committee Chairs; Corrections Kit to Area Corrections Chairs; Corrections Workbook to District/Other Chairs.
 - Corrections Literature Discount Package Order Form and Corrections- related service material.
 - Distributes the video “Carrying the Message Behind These Walls.”
- Provides periodic mailings (activity update reports) about 3-4 times a year to Corrections/H&I/BTG chairs.
- Responds to requests from Corrections committees for shared experience and contacts.
- Coordinates the following:
 - Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) for members in correctional facilities.
 - Forwards prerelease contact requests to local corrections committees.
 - Quarterly *Sharing From Behind the Walls* publication for inmates.
 - Every other year, sends informational letter to wardens and corrections professionals in U.S./Canada.
 - Working closely with Publications Department and corresponding trustees’ committee, coordinates literature and videos that fall under the purview of this assignment and per Advisory Actions applicable to A.A. Conference-approved literature.
- Responds to letters from inmates.
- Communicates the need for outside C.C.S. letter writers.
- Provides limited complimentary A.A. literature to inmates, upon request.
- Provides A.A. information in response to inquiries from corrections professionals, and refers to local committees, whenever appropriate.
- As secretary to the trustees’ and General Service Conference Committees on Corrections, prepares agenda, background and minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees’ committee following each board meeting to the General Service Conference Committee.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on Corrections.

Public Information (P.I.)

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letter to newly listed Area/District/Other P.I. Committee Chairs; P.I. Kit to Area P.I. Chairs; P.I. Workbook to District/Other Chairs.
 - P.I. Literature Discount Packages Order Form and P.I.-related service material.
- Coordinates the following:

- Annual Anonymity Letter to Media.
- Triennial A.A. Membership Survey.
- Press Releases and Public Service Announcements for TV and Radio.
- P.I. activities at International Convention.
- Works closely with Publications Department and corresponding trustees' committee, coordinates literature and P.S.A.s (Public Service Announcements) that fall under the purview of this assignment and per Advisory Actions applicable to A.A. Conference-approved literature.
- Responds to requests from P.I. committees for shared experience.
- Provides P.S.A. distribution lists to area P.I. committees.
- Refers invitations for A.A. informational presentations at schools/educational institutions to local committees.
- Refers invitations to local health/community fairs to local P.I. committees and provides limited quantities of A.A. literature for this purpose and upon request.
- Provides periodic mailings (activity update reports) about 3-4 times a year to P.I. chairs.
- Provides accurate and consistent information about A.A. in response to inquiries from media/researchers/students and refers to local committees whenever appropriate.
- Forwards anonymity breaks at the level of public media to area delegates; clarifies misinformation about A.A. in print whenever appropriate and on a case-by-base basis.
- As secretary to the trustees' and General Service Conference Committees on P.I., prepares agenda, background, minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees' committee following each board meeting to the General Service Conference Committee.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on P.I.

Treatment Facilities (T.F.)/Loners/Internationalists/Remote Communities

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letter to newly listed Area/District/Other T.F. Committee Chairs; T.F. Kit to Area T.F. Chairs; T.F. Workbook to District/Other Chairs.
 - T.F. Literature Discount Package Order Form and T.F. related service material.
 - Distributes the video "Hope."
 - Working closely with Publications Department and corresponding trustees' committee, coordinates literature and videos that fall under the purview of this assignment and per Advisory Actions applicable to A.A. Conference-approved literature.
- Provides periodic mailings (activity update reports) about 3-4 times a year to T.F./H&I/BTG chairs.

- Responds to requests from T.F./H&I/BTG committees for shared experience and contacts.
- Responds to letters from clients or patients in treatment centers and refers to local committees whenever appropriate.
- Responds to inquiries from treatment professionals, provides A.A. information and literature, and refers to local committee whenever appropriate.
- As secretary to the trustees' and General Service Conference Committees on Treatment Facilities, prepares agenda, background, minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees' committee following each board meeting to General Service Conference Committee.
- Coordinates the following for Loners/Internationalists:
 - Bimonthly *Loners-Internationalist Meeting (LIM)* bulletin (a meeting-by-mail).
 - Provides complimentary literature, including the Loners/Internationalists/ Homers Directory and *Box 4-5-9* subscription.
- Responds to letters from Loners/Internationalists/Homers/Port Contacts/Loner Sponsors; provides contact information for members in military upon request.
- Provides shared experience on working with remote communities.
- Provides assistance to the chairs of the pre-Conference Remote Communities Meeting and sets up meeting prior to the General Service Conference (GSC).
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on T.F./Loner/Remote Communities.

Literature

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letter and informational packet on A.A. literature for newly listed Area/District/Other Literature Committee Chairs.
- Coordinates the following:
 - Recovery Conference-approved A.A. Literature.
 - Bimonthly *Box 4-5-9* publication for the Fellowship.
 - A.A. literature display package for conventions/conference/roundups.
 - Works closely with Publications Department and corresponding trustees' committee, coordinates recovery literature that falls under the purview of this assignment and per Advisory Actions applicable to A.A. Conference-approved literature.
- Provides periodic mailings (activity update reports) about two times a year to Literature chairs.
- As secretary to the trustees' and GSC Committees on Literature, prepares agenda, background and minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees' committee following each board meeting to GSC Committee.
- Responds to requests from Literature committees for shared experience.

- Responds to inquiries about A.A. Conference-approved literature when appropriate.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on Literature.

Group Services

- Supervises and provides the following:
 - D.C.M. and G.S.R. kits for newly listed D.C.M. and G.S.R.s
 - A.A. Group Handbook for newly listed groups.
 - Information/literature packages for starting new groups.
 - Service Material (SM) and SM lists, upon request.
 - New Group Forms; Change of Group Information Forms; new Central/Intergroup Office Forms.
- As member of Intergroup/Central Office Seminar Policy Committee and liaison to local offices, participates at the Annual Central/Intergroup Seminar; provides quarterly mailings (activity update reports) to Central/Intergroup Offices.
- Responds to requests from local offices for shared experience and from local Web site committees.
- As secretary to General Service Conference Committee on Report and Charter, prepares agenda, background and minutes/report.
- Coordinates G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site; A.A. Directories and Central/Intergroup lists; supervises revisions and updates to *The A.A. Service Manual* and A.A. Guidelines.
- Distributes circulating folder of local office bulletins/newsletters for staff review.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on Web site, Central/Intergroup Office, Report and Charter, Service Material and Web site.

Conference:

- Coordinates the annual General Service Conference (GSC) including G.S.O. Conference Planning Meetings and Delegate Chairpersons Orientation in January.
- Supervises the following material for Conference members:
 - GSC Communications Kit and Conference-related documents, forms, etc.
 - GSC Manual.
 - GSC Final Report.
 - GSC Informational Mailings/Communications.
 - GSC Background Material, CD and Hardcopy.
 - Early-Bird *Box 4-5-9* and Conference issue.
 - Advisory Actions and Additional Committee Consideration Lists.
- Seeks suggestions from areas for GSC theme, presentation and workshop topics and agenda items.
- Responds to requests from area delegates for shared experience and Conference-related inquiries where appropriate.

- Distributes circulating folder of area and district bulletins/newsletters for staff review.
- As secretary to the trustees' GSC Committee and Conference Agenda Committee, prepares agenda, background, and minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees' committee following each board meeting to GSC Committee.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on General Service Conference.

Regional Forums

- Coordinates Regional Forums that includes:
 - Negotiating Hotel Contract (costs, rooms, set-up, equipment, personnel, etc.).
 - Scheduling participants.
 - Working with Host Committee.
 - Mass mailing to all groups and trusted servants in region.
 - Translations as needed.
- Supervises the following material for Forums:
 - Registration Forms/Flyers.
 - Early-Bird Forum Newsletter.
 - Agenda and Program.
 - Evaluation Forms and Summary.
 - Final Report.
 - Translation Equipment as needed.
 - Forum-related Service Material.
 - On-site Forum Displays.
 - On-site A.A. Conference-approved Literature and Service Material.
 - Forum information for G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.
- Responds to Forum-related inquiries.
- As co-secretary to the trustees' and General Service Conference International Convention/Regional Forums Committees, prepares agenda, background, and minutes/report.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on Regional Forums.

International

- Responds to inquiries from members, groups, committees outside U.S./Canada; refers to country G.S.O./Service Office where one exists.
- Provides shared experience on starting new A.A. groups in countries where A.A. is getting started; refers to nearest G.S.O. when appropriate.
- Responds to inquiries from professionals overseas where no service office exists.
- Upon request, provides contacts for members relocating/traveling overseas.
- Supervises the International Directory.
- Provides A.A. literature upon request where no local offices exist and there are limited resources.

- Maintains communication with country G.S.O.'s/Service Offices and responds to requests for shared experience.
- Coordinates the World Service Meeting (WSM) held every other year including G.S.O. planning meetings.
- Supervises the following material for WSM members:
 - WSM Informational Mailings/Communications.
 - WSM Manual.
 - WSM Final Report.
- Provides pertinent information on translations of A.A. literature and assists with new translations by providing copyright/reprint guidelines.
- Upon invitation, travels overseas to service events, conventions, zonal meetings, etc.; meets with professionals as arranged by local A.A.s.
- Distributes circulating folder of country G.S.O. bulletins/newsletters for staff review.
- As secretary to the trustees' International Committee, prepares agenda, background, and minutes/report.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on International.

International Convention

- Coordinates programming, finances, and Convention facilities.
- Provides Convention information through mailings, *Box 4-5-9*, G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site and AA Grapevine.
- Works with local A.A. committee to provide Host Committee for this event.
- As co-secretary to the trustees' and GSC International Convention/Regional Forums Committees, prepares agenda, background, and minutes/report.
- Maintains assignment documentation/history on International Convention.

Nominating/Special Needs

- Provides information on board vacancies that includes announcements, resume forms, guidelines and procedure information.
- As secretary to the trustees' Nominating Committee and GSC Committee on Trustees, prepares agenda, background, and minutes/report.
- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Welcome letters and Special Needs packet to newly listed Area/District/Other Special Needs Committee Chairs; provides Special Needs Packet.
- Coordinates Special Needs-related service material.
- Responds to inquiries pertaining to special needs from members, groups, committees and provides shared experience.
- Provides special needs formatted literature when appropriate.
- Responds to inquires from professionals working with special needs population.
- Communicates with alcoholics with special needs regarding suitability of current literature formats.

- Maintains assignment documentation/history on Nominating and Special Needs.

Archives

- Maintains G.S.O. Archives in accordance with accepted practices and standards characteristic of the industry.
- Responds to requests for research and information from the Fellowship, G.S.O. staff, A.A. service workers, trustees and directors, and other external researchers as to various aspects of A.A. history.
- Provides information about group and area histories.
- Provides assistance to area and district archivists regarding collection and preservation.
- Supervises and provides the following:
 - Archives Workbook.
 - Archives Guidelines.
 - “The A.A. Archives” pamphlet.
 - Distributes video “Markings on the Journey.”
- Produces and distributes, upon request, historical photograph sets and photographs of our co-founders (A.A. members only); copies of pre-publication manuscripts of the first edition of the Big Book; bookmarks and wallet cards; and other give-a-ways.
- Maintains and updates content for the Archives portal on Web site.
- Maintains rotating exhibits of interest, as well as a library and other items of interest, for visitors touring G.S.O.
- Upon request, coordinates scheduling and shipping of a traveling exhibit for area events.
- Writes and distributes *Markings*, the Archives newsletter.
- Collects copies of all materials printed or produced by AAWS and the Grapevine, as well as copies of all board minutes, committee reports, and other significant permanent records.
- Preserves all historical and current permanent records of AAWS and the AA Grapevine, through digitization, preservation photocopying, and other archival preservation techniques.
- Collects oral history interviews from early members.
- Processes, organizes, and catalogs all historical and current permanent records so they will be accessible and searchable.
- Manages storage and inventory of inactive records stored off-site.
- As secretary to the trustees’ and GSC Committees on Archives, prepares agenda, background and minutes/report; sends highlights of trustees’ committee following each board meeting to GSC Committee.

Finance/Contributions

- Receives and acknowledges all contributions from A.A. groups and members.

- Provides self-support packets upon request and supervises service material such as group contribution envelopes and birthday envelopes.
- Responds to all inquiries pertaining to group contribution records, account balances, and A.A. finances where appropriate.
- Sets up and supervises annual budgets and in general maintain accurate financial records.
- Chief Financial Officer (C.F.O.): As secretary to the A.A.W.S. Finance committee, trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee and GSC Committee on Finance, prepares agenda, background, minutes and reports.
- Handles reprint requests for A.A. copyrighted material.
- Responds to inquiries pertaining to bequests.

Records

- Maintains data base of group and service position records, which includes mailing lists.
- Supervises annual Group Records update.
- Provides FNV (Fellowship New Vision) program and instructions for area registrars or area trusted servant responsible for area group records.
- Processes all updates to records including new group information, trusted servants, etc.

Publications

- Edits, designs and publishes all A.A. Conference-approved literature, video, audio and special needs items in three languages: English, Spanish and French.
- Creates catalogs and order forms.
- Maintains Inventory control.
- Processes all literature orders.
- Handles customer inquiries regarding orders.
- Maintains small in-house shipping department.
- Manages outsourced warehousing and shipping companies.
- Oversees translations/licensing of A.A. World Services copyrighted material.
- Research and development for new publications and new formats.
- Publishes the following:
 - *Box 4-5-9.*
 - *G.S.O. Quarterly Report .*
 - A.A. Directories and Lists of Domestic and International offices.
 - *Markings.*
 - *About A.A.*
 - *Sharing From Behind the Walls.*
 - *Loners and International Members (LIM)* newsletter.
 - International Convention souvenirs.

- Sends publication updates to local offices, Conference members on new literature, pricing changes, etc.
- Manages day-to-day Web site upkeep and design.
- Publications Director and Managing Editor Act as editorial and publishing consultants to the Trustees and Conference Literature Committees.
- Publications Director acts as publishing consultant to the A.A.W.S. Board of Directors; provides Publications Reports to A.A.W.S.

Other

- Gives office tours, upon request, to visitors.
- Provides visitor welcome packets.
- Provides informational packets containing some A.A. literature in response to general inquiries for general information about A.A.
- Sets up annual visit/tour for GSC delegate visitors and guests during Conference week.
- Sets up large group visits and provides welcome/presentation meeting with refreshments (Coffee, etc.).
- Provides local A.A. office information to anyone looking for A.A. meetings; provides group contact information to A.A. members where no local office exists for Twelfth Step purposes and when appropriate.
- Arranges board meetings, housing and meal forms, mailings for the quarterly meetings, minutes, dashboard, etc.
- Provides services to the AA Grapevine Office.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

| | 2006 ACTUAL | 2007 ACTUAL | 2008 BUDGET |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Group Services | 2,853,919 | 3,148,518 | 3,246,025 |
| Public Information | 413,648 | 462,216 | 481,984 |
| Cooperation Professional Community | 455,714 | 486,208 | 507,001 |
| Treatment Facilities | 129,579 | 191,264 | 199,443 |
| Corrections | 432,229 | 391,242 | 407,974 |
| Overseas Services (including Literature Assistance) | 966,623 | 840,764 | 876,720 |
| General Service Conference | 1,009,613 | 1,055,254 | 1,100,383 |
| Regional Forums | 575,948 | 608,507 | 634,531 |
| Archives | 810,325 | 829,550 | 865,027 |
| Trustee/Director Activities | 495,578 | 514,557 | 536,561 |
| World Service Meeting | 128,836 | 0 | 182,203 |
| Supporting Services (Allocated in above numbers) | | | |
| Total | <u>\$8,272,012</u> | <u>\$8,528,080</u> | <u>\$9,045,465</u> |
| Cost per member per year | \$6.32 | \$6.49 | \$6.88 |
| Cost per group per year | \$141.31 | \$146.18 | \$154.92 |
| Number of members reported | 1,308,712 | 1,314,552 | 1,314,552 |
| Number of groups reported | 58,539 | 58,340 | 58,340 |

2007 Contributions From Groups, Individuals, Specials, Special Meetings — by Delegate Area (in U.S. Dollars)

| AREA # | GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA | #GPS. REPORTED | #GPS. CONTRIB. | % OF GPS. CONTRIB. | TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB. | MEMBERSHIP | CONTRIBUTION PER CAPITA | INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS | MEMORIAL | SPECIALS ⁽¹⁾ | SPECIAL MEETINGS ⁽²⁾ | TOTAL AREA CONTRIBUTIONS | PER CAPITA |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1. | Ala./N.W. Fla. | 415 | 211 | 50.8% | 45,207 | 8,605 | \$5.24 | 750 | 99 | 496 | 200 | \$46,751.45 | \$5.43 |
| 2. | Alaska | 183 | 88 | 48.1 | 16,897 | 3,280 | 5.15 | 939 | | 584 | 80 | \$18,499.61 | \$5.64 |
| 3. | Arizona | 923 | 438 | 47.4 | 121,185 | 22,036 | 5.50 | 12,536 | 300 | 10,057 | 275 | \$144,353.45 | \$6.55 |
| 4. | Arkansas | 257 | 147 | 57.1 | 21,443 | 4,643 | 4.61 | 1,182 | | 2,493 | 120 | \$25,237.41 | \$5.44 |
| California | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. | Southern | 1,175 | 398 | 33.8 | 119,858 | 43,845 | 2.72 | 10,363 | 320 | 3,916 | 501 | \$134,957.80 | \$3.08 |
| 6. | N. Coastal | 1,801 | 1,092 | 60.5 | 269,485 | 56,201 | 4.80 | 19,077 | 3,000 | 4,132 | 592 | \$296,285.32 | \$5.27 |
| 7. | N. Interior | 847 | 425 | 50.1 | 90,256 | 24,075 | 3.75 | 4,803 | 30 | 3,091 | 23 | \$98,203.53 | \$4.08 |
| 8. | San Diego/Imp. | 882 | 385 | 43.6 | 78,764 | 26,446 | 2.98 | 7,905 | 1,738 | 3,507 | 583 | \$92,496.39 | \$3.50 |
| 9. | Mid-South. | 1,523 | 779 | 51.1 | 183,928 | 47,471 | 3.87 | 7,918 | | 2,979 | 474 | \$195,298.66 | \$4.11 |
| 10. | Colorado | 704 | 383 | 54.4 | 116,205 | 16,995 | 6.83 | 12,201 | 170 | 27,656 | 141 | \$156,373.79 | \$9.20 |
| 11. | Connecticut | 1,514 | 600 | 39.5 | 121,415 | 38,265 | 3.17 | 5,322 | 850 | 12,666 | 480 | \$140,733.06 | \$3.68 |
| 12. | Delaware | 220 | 122 | 55.4 | 34,736 | 3,475 | 10.00 | 285 | | 3,417 | | \$38,437.67 | \$11.06 |
| 13. | D.C. | 456 | 208 | 45.5 | 53,398 | 14,439 | 3.70 | 753 | 20 | | | \$54,170.89 | \$3.75 |
| Florida | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14. | North | 816 | 388 | 47.4 | 90,911 | 17,794 | 5.10 | 4,283 | 50 | 28,631 | | \$123,875.29 | \$6.96 |
| 15. | South/ | 1,727 | 878 | 50.8 | 229,791 | 37,702 | 6.09 | 12,343 | 1,000 | 95,065 | 244 | \$338,443.78 | \$8.98 |
| 16. | Georgia | 703 | 440 | 62.6 | 108,483 | 16,862 | 6.43 | 8,045 | | 3,171 | | \$119,699.06 | \$7.10 |
| 17. | Hawaii | 312 | 166 | 53.1 | 38,039 | 5,349 | 7.10 | 847 | | 657 | | \$39,542.39 | \$7.39 |
| 18. | Idaho | 220 | 103 | 46.8 | 19,688 | 4,037 | 4.87 | 667 | | 673 | | \$21,027.72 | \$5.21 |
| Illinois | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19. | Chicago | 1,191 | 296 | 24.9 | 86,191 | 28,632 | 3.00 | 3,389 | 125 | 6,412 | 35 | \$96,151.66 | \$3.36 |
| 20. | North | 1,103 | 453 | 41.1 | 65,328 | 22,465 | 2.90 | 5,210 | 100 | 13,885 | 396 | \$84,918.96 | \$3.78 |
| 21. | South | 462 | 151 | 32.6 | 26,214 | 8,475 | 3.08 | 607 | 25 | 480 | 9 | \$27,335.14 | \$3.23 |
| Indiana | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22. | North | 620 | 238 | 38.4 | 35,408 | 9,092 | 3.89 | 1,196 | 600 | 1,979 | 95 | \$39,278.19 | \$4.32 |
| 23. | South | 626 | 261 | 41.7 | 35,123 | 11,094 | 3.17 | 1,306 | | 1,250 | 148 | \$37,826.90 | \$3.41 |
| 24. | Iowa | 643 | 276 | 42.9 | 50,762 | 13,385 | 3.78 | 936 | | 550 | 100 | \$52,348.34 | \$3.91 |
| 25. | Kansas | 373 | 182 | 48.8 | 33,559 | 9,761 | 3.43 | 3,265 | 300 | 6,965 | | \$44,088.99 | \$4.52 |
| 26. | Kentucky | 655 | 281 | 42.8 | 69,078 | 10,524 | 6.56 | 3,605 | | 2,680 | | \$75,362.42 | \$7.16 |
| 27. | Louisiana | 420 | 180 | 42.8 | 38,362 | 9,019 | 4.24 | 886 | | 341 | | \$39,589.49 | \$4.39 |
| 28. | Maine | 484 | 177 | 36.5 | 20,984 | 8,016 | 2.61 | 351 | | 2,995 | | \$24,330.14 | \$3.04 |
| 29. | Maryland | 971 | 420 | 43.2 | 83,971 | 15,373 | 5.45 | 5,340 | 1,000 | 554 | | \$90,864.98 | \$5.91 |
| Massachusetts | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30. | East | 1,390 | 514 | 36.9 | 122,541 | 47,277 | 2.58 | 8,228 | | 3,100 | 546 | \$134,414.82 | \$2.84 |
| 31. | West | 284 | 159 | 55.9 | 19,285 | 5,251 | 3.66 | 509 | | | 20 | \$19,813.89 | \$3.77 |
| Michigan | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32. | Central | 591 | 248 | 41.9 | 39,705 | 13,075 | 3.04 | 2,715 | 50 | 1,080 | 10 | \$43,560.10 | \$3.33 |
| 33. | Southeast | 867 | 293 | 33.7 | 65,854 | 20,027 | 3.29 | 3,101 | 150 | 353 | 25 | \$69,483.06 | \$3.47 |
| 34. | West | 543 | 200 | 36.7 | 37,870 | 11,629 | 3.25 | 596 | | 2,079 | | \$40,543.98 | \$3.49 |
| Minnesota | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35. | North | 527 | 245 | 46.5 | 25,822 | 8,895 | 2.89 | 766 | 545 | 1,200 | | \$28,332.96 | \$3.19 |
| 36. | South | 1,030 | 423 | 41.1 | 86,222 | 25,524 | 3.38 | 867 | 100 | 1,774 | 341 | \$89,303.68 | \$3.50 |
| 37. | Mississippi | 258 | 107 | 41.5 | 24,327 | 4,951 | 4.91 | 1,131 | | 1,080 | | \$26,538.38 | \$5.36 |
| Missouri | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 38. | East | 518 | 248 | 47.8 | 51,901 | 10,366 | 5.01 | 6,844 | 100 | 320 | 50 | \$59,215.50 | \$5.71 |
| 39. | West | 229 | 101 | 44.0 | 18,983 | 6,583 | 2.88 | 142 | | 359 | | \$19,483.52 | \$2.96 |
| 40. | Montana | 270 | 124 | 45.8 | 23,145 | 4,825 | 4.80 | 522 | | 50 | | \$23,717.51 | \$4.92 |
| 41. | Nebraska | 734 | 325 | 44.2 | 55,045 | 16,461 | 3.33 | 693 | 1,025 | 250 | 46 | \$57,059.09 | \$3.47 |
| 42. | Nevada | 496 | 205 | 41.3 | 41,965 | 12,377 | 3.38 | 7,171 | 66 | 4,124 | 9 | \$53,334.44 | \$4.31 |
| 43. | New Hampshire | 564 | 253 | 44.9 | 34,345 | 11,135 | 3.08 | 351 | 100 | 2,883 | | \$37,679.08 | \$3.38 |
| New Jersey | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 44. | North | 1,242 | 512 | 41.2 | 105,378 | 30,759 | 3.42 | 8,968 | 344 | 2,884 | 405 | \$117,979.28 | \$3.84 |
| 45. | South | 509 | 260 | 51.1 | 63,806 | 8,732 | 7.31 | 796 | 538 | 115 | 1,012 | \$66,266.79 | \$7.59 |
| 46. | New Mexico | 368 | 176 | 47.7 | 38,515 | 6,550 | 5.87 | 2,283 | | 6,606 | | \$47,404.50 | \$7.24 |
| New York | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 47. | Central | 715 | 250 | 34.9 | 40,939 | 12,424 | 3.29 | 3,459 | 25 | 611 | 20 | \$45,054.22 | \$3.63 |
| 48. | H./M./B. | 741 | 291 | 39.3 | 31,292 | 11,051 | 2.83 | 478 | 150 | 1,919 | | \$33,839.01 | \$3.06 |
| 49. | Southeast | 1,751 | 708 | 40.3 | 222,220 | 56,435 | 3.94 | 16,149 | 4,655 | 7,060 | 1,276 | \$251,359.67 | \$4.45 |
| 50. | West | 339 | 84 | 24.7 | 12,744 | 5,750 | 2.21 | 59 | 106 | | | \$12,908.58 | \$2.24 |
| 51. | N. Carolina | 960 | 493 | 51.3 | 106,567 | 15,856 | 6.71 | 5,272 | 500 | 3,830 | | \$116,169.80 | \$7.33 |
| 52. | North Dakota | 139 | 75 | 53.9 | 10,813 | 3,180 | 3.39 | 165 | | 678 | | \$11,655.23 | \$3.67 |
| Ohio | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 53. | Cent. & S.E. | 725 | 201 | 27.7 | 30,832 | 10,523 | 2.93 | 1,726 | | 252 | 63 | \$32,873.07 | \$3.12 |
| 54. | Northeast | 1,456 | 354 | 24.3 | 43,524 | 20,939 | 2.07 | 2,030 | | 2,347 | | \$47,901.55 | \$2.29 |
| 55. | N.W. Ohio/S.E. Mich. | 305 | 106 | 34.7 | 12,257 | 4,374 | 2.79 | 692 | 326 | 236 | | \$13,510.96 | \$3.09 |
| 56. | S.W. Ohio | 532 | 232 | 43.5 | 41,198 | 10,216 | 4.02 | 4,168 | | 25 | | \$45,390.47 | \$4.44 |
| 57. | Oklahoma | 380 | 204 | 53.6 | 34,481 | 7,384 | 4.66 | 350 | 51 | 548 | 60 | \$35,490.23 | \$4.81 |
| 58. | Oregon | 960 | 430 | 44.8 | 85,029 | 18,940 | 4.48 | 7,407 | 2,000 | 4,950 | 56 | \$99,442.18 | \$5.25 |
| Pennsylvania | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 59. | East | 1,456 | 738 | 50.7 | 168,394 | 36,381 | 4.62 | 7,348 | 203 | 6,258 | 774 | \$182,976.66 | \$5.03 |
| 60. | West | 835 | 388 | 46.5 | 56,154 | 11,923 | 4.70 | 2,627 | | 1,847 | | \$60,627.68 | \$5.08 |
| 61. | Rhode Island | 251 | 110 | 43.7 | 25,574 | 5,332 | 4.79 | 1,282 | | 8,109 | | \$34,964.91 | \$6.56 |
| 62. | South Carolina | 325 | 187 | 57.4 | 49,830 | 7,757 | 6.41 | 2,024 | | 3,731 | | \$55,585.04 | \$7.17 |
| 63. | South Dakota | 172 | 74 | 43.0 | 11,376 | 5,204 | 2.18 | 151 | 72 | 1,157 | | \$12,756.50 | \$2.45 |
| 64. | Tennessee | 534 | 275 | 51.4 | 58,888 | 12,743 | 4.62 | 4,209 | 3,000 | 110 | 100 | \$66,306.53 | \$5.20 |
| Texas | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65. | Northeast | 531 | 214 | 40.2 | 70,026 | 21,272 | 3.29 | 5,179 | 100 | 4,086 | | \$79,390.17 | \$3.73 |
| 66. | Northwest | 209 | 71 | 33.9 | 16,282 | 5,397 | 3.01 | 1,341 | | 5,557 | | \$23,179.56 | \$4.29 |
| 67. | Southeast | 573 | 249 | 43.5 | 55,951 | 17,072 | 3.27 | 3,251 | 100 | 2,100 | | \$61,402.16 | \$3.60 |
| 68. | Southwest | 532 | 224 | 42.0 | 64,131 | 12,332 | 5.19 | 1,899 | 34 | 1,712 | | \$67,776.48 | \$5.50 |
| 69. | Utah | 269 | 168 | 62.4 | 33,935 | 5,576 | 6.09 | 2,231 | 50 | 842 | 93 | \$37,150.41 | \$6.66 |
| 70. | Vermont | 259 | 115 | 44.3 | 16,077 | 4,590 | 3.50 | 12,023 | | 343 | | \$28,443.37 | \$6.20 |
| 71. | Virginia | 1,228 | 649 | 52.8 | 131,185 | 23,186 | 5.65 | 11,424 | 50 | 1,244 | 169 | \$144,070.65 | \$6.21 |
| 72. | Western Washington | 1,238 | 567 | 45.8 | 135,153 | 27,382 | 4.93 | 7,501 | 1,000 | 36,592 | 107 | \$180,352.55 | \$6.59 |
| 73. | West Virginia | 314 | 129 | 41.1 | 11,672 | 3,398 | 3.43 | 202 | 2,000 | 1,220 | | \$15,093.91 | \$4.44 |
| Wisconsin | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 74. | N. Wis./Upper Pen. Mich. | 674 | 261 | 38.7 | 27,465 | 10,294 | 2.66 | 573 | | 591 | | \$28,629.62 | \$2.78 |
| 75. | South | 964 | 449 | 46.6 | 51,610 | 17,936 | 2.88 | 2,360 | | 1,332 | 128 | \$55,429.17 | \$3.09 |
| 76. | Wyoming | 108 | 57 | 52.8 | 12,628 | 2,017 | 6.25 | 131 | | 2,533 | | \$15,291.99 | \$7.58 |
| 77. | Puerto Rico | 117 | 73 | 62.4 | 7,179 | 1,340 | 5.36 | 190 | | 515 | | \$7,883.78 | \$5.88 |
| 78. | Alberta/N.W.T. | 482 | 257 | 53.3 | 82,357 | 8,287 | 9.94 | 3,589 | | 7,371 | 100 | \$93,416.97 | \$11.27 |
| 79. | B.C./Yukon | 720 | 408 | 56.7 | 116,084 | 14,159 | 8.19 | 1,037 | 994 | 6,724 | 411 | \$125,249.53 | \$8.85 |
| 80. | Manitoba | 147 | 51 | 34.7 | 11,514 | 3,707 | 3.11 | 130 | | 50 | | \$11,693.53 | \$3.15 |
| 81. | N.B./P.E.I. | 192 | 88 | 45.7 | 11,659 | 3,525 | 3.31 | 505 | | 1,289 | | \$13,453.07 | \$3.82 |
| 82. | N.S./Nfld./Lab. | 231 | 103 | 44.6 | 14,169 | 3,141 | 4.51 | 293 | | 1,461 | 200 | \$16,122.39 | \$5.13 |
| Ontario | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 83. | East | 545 | 253 | 46.3 | 62,414 | 13,822 | 4.51 | 774 | 1,990 | 27,191 | 534 | \$92,902.13 | \$6.72 |
| 84. | Northeast | 151 | 68 | 44.9 | 18,050 | 1,885 | 9.58 | 148 | 50 | 3,120 | | \$21,367.29 | \$11.34 |
| 85. | Northwest | 73 | 14 | 19.2 | 2,300 | 1,133 | 2.02 | 29 | | 1,212 | | \$3,540.95 | \$3.13 |
| 86. | West | 553 | 243 | 43.9 | 60,933 | 10,401 | 5.86 | 726 | 466 | 11,199 | | \$73,323.82 | \$7.05 |
| Quebec ⁽³⁾ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 87. | Southwest | 528 | 450 | 85.1 | 16,875 | 14,479 | 1.16 | 2,988 | | 12,310 | | \$32,172.96 | \$2.22 |
| 88. | Southeast | 204 | 164 | 80.4 | 387 | 3,322 | 0.11 | 425 | | 16,353 | | \$17,165.66 | \$5.17 |
| 89. | Northeast | 299 | 270 | 90.2 | 790 | 6,044 | 0.12 | 377 | | 40,309 | | \$41,476.60 | \$6.86 |
| 90. | Northwest | 344 | 313 | 90.9 | 2,717 | 6,240 | 0.43 | 3,465 | | 109,445 | | \$115,627.01 | \$18.53 |
| 91. | Saskatchewan | 276 | 125 | 45.3 | 18,003 | 3,414 | 5.27 | 579 | 133 | 2,266 | 132 | \$21,112.94 | \$6.18 |
| 92. | Washington East | 457 | 187 | 40.9 | 27,648 | 6,255 | 4.41 | 650 | | 650 | | | |