

Why should the Deaf AA group be registered and send a General Service Representative to District and Area meetings?

1. **The most important reason:** When a Deaf AA group joins the service structure they are helping to carry the message to the still suffering Deaf alcoholic.
 - a. When the Deaf AA group is registered:
 - i. Hearing AA's know where to refer Deaf alcoholics.
 - ii. GSO/AAWS knows how to contact your group. This is a vital link to be able to participate in updating AA literature for the Deaf alcoholic.
 - b. The Deaf GSR is a good resource for hearing members to learn about how to carry the message to the still suffering Deaf alcoholic.
 - c. General service meetings are where members coordinate AA outreach to alcoholics looking for help in jails, prisons, hospitals and treatment centers. At this time Deaf alcoholics in jails, prisons, hospitals, and treatment centers have very little support from Deaf alcoholics.
 - d. Hearing groups tend to contribute more to Deaf Access Committee or ASL interpreter contribution cans when they SEE a Deaf GSR at District and Area meetings. Brings awareness! In sight, on the mind. Out of sight, out of mind.
2. IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, WE ALL WORK TOGETHER "To those new in its fold, Alcoholics Anonymous has made the difference between misery and sobriety, and often the difference between life and death. A.A. can, of course, mean just as much to uncounted alcoholics not yet reached. "Therefore, no society of men and women ever had a more urgent need for continuous effectiveness and permanent unity. We alcoholics see that we must work together and hang together, else most of us will finally die alone." —Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 561
3. Most of us have found that volunteering to do service improves the quality of our recovery and helps us stay sober.
4. When a group is registered and has an active GSR, the group is linked to the AA service structure.
5. At monthly District meetings and the Quarterly Area GSR sharing session the GSR shares what is happening in the group and finds out what is going on in other AA groups, Area and at the AA World Service/General Service Office
6. You transmit ideas and opinions, as well as facts; through you, the group con-science becomes a part of "the collective con-science of our whole Fellowship.
7. The GSR brings back information to the group about what is happening in AA beyond their group.
8. The District & Area meetings are a great place to meet people that have prior experience with service. If there is a concern or need in your group and you are not sure how to handle it, you have resources to help with solutions.