

SUMMARY OF WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

6th – 10th AUGUST 2025

The 39th World Service Conference was held in then Embassy Suites Hotel San Francisco. There were 105 in attendance 96 delegates and 9 trustees'

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE - 8 Class A Trustees (Debtors), 1 Class B Trustee (Non-debtor)

Nine countries were represented Amsterdam, Australia, Canada, Japan, Germany, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States.

Finance Report from the Board's Treasurer

This was the first fiscal year that the Annual Spending Plan has been based on actual income rather than projected income.

As of June 30, 2025, Debtors Anonymous' financial performance shows

- total income reached **\$209,243.30**, which is approximately **7% below** the spending plan of **\$225,306.73**.
- This includes **\$69,121 in literature sales** (93% of plan), **\$136,535 in member contributions** (also 93% of plan), and **\$3,570 in other income**.
- the largest source of income, member donations, was down by **\$11,000**.

The numbers do not include revenue from the newly released ***Daily Reader***. The literature sales are close to expectations

On the spending side, actual expenses through June were close to the spending plan.

- June 23/24 **\$198.899**
- June 24/25 **\$186.168** went down so the Prudent Reserve goes down to 75% of the year's expenses
- The **board-related travel** was **\$45,347**, exceeding the plan by 18%, largely due to increased lodging and airfare costs. The GSB will meet virtually for their Winter 2026 meeting
- **bank and transaction fees** totalled **\$5,985**, which is about 45% over the planned **\$4,138**. The increase is due to member donating via PayPal and debit cards; this attracts processing fees.

There are many other expense categories that remained under budget such as cost of goods sold (**51% below plan**), helping to offset the difference.

DA maintains a prudent reserve of **\$186,168** which sits in a high interest savings account

The overall financial position remains stable. DA is confident that with continued support and mindful spending, the fellowship remains on solid financial ground going forward.

After dinner the conference opened with the Serenity Prayer and committees presenting their report

COMMITTEE AND CAUCUS REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE - The Finance Committee gave a report for 1st July 2024 – 20th June 2025.

Tradition 8 By employing an office manager and a part-time worker dealing with administration, literature and other queries. DA ensures staff are paid the current market rate commiserate with the positions they hold.

Concept 8 The General Service Board is independent of the conference. The GSR's and ISR's are the backbone of the conference, bringing their meetings concerns, questions, ideas and requests to the WSC. The GSB takes fiducial responsibility for DA Laws, copyright etc. They have an institutional memory of how things work.

The John H Fund is a separate account and belongs to the host committee. Spending is determined by them. The GSB does not spend this money. All profits from the WSC goes to the John H Fund.

There are several current translations Japanese, Brazilian and Portuguese that need additional funding and saving pots will be created for these projects.

After the presentation there was an Open Forum where each delegate is given a ticket to speak for 2 minutes on any topic. I spoke about UK wanting suggestions on how to increase the 7th Tradition.

GSB STRATEGIC PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE OF DA held a session entitled "What is the future of D.A.?" Discussed why it is crucial for a non-profit to clarify its goals. To help inform the next 5-year strategic plan see Strategic planning survey <https://debtorsanonymous.org.survey2025>

GSB Chair's report – table of some Literature achievements for the past year:

Publication	Language	Status
DA Tri-fold brochures	English, Spanish, French and German. Other languages to follow	Available as grey scale downloadable PDF
Daily Reader -A Year of Serenity and Prosperity	English	Available
	French, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, Japanese	Applied for permission to translate
12x12x12	Japanese Other countries	Working on translation Finalising print on demand and -book versions
12x12x12	Brazilian Portuguese	Published by local Intergroup, now available as print on demand outside Brazil, e-book available shortly
12x12x12	Italian	Working on translation
12x12x12	Spanish	Finalised, at editorial stage for printing expected 2026
12 Step Study Guide	Brazilian Portuguese	Translated now in final editorial stage
Currency of Hope	Russian Portuguese	Translated and verified under licence Will be available as print on demand and e-book shortly

SPIRITUALLY SUSTAINABLE EARNING CACUS - Their mission is to support the DA Fellowship in gaining clarity around issues of earning and to broaden the fellowship wide understanding of how SSE fits into DA recovery. Holds three meetings a week in the US, one meeting in South Africa, and a **BDA focused meeting in Australia***. They held a fellowship wide call in April 2025.

INTERGROUP CAUCUS - Responded to Issues and Concerns brought to the fellowship

Researched the chronological history of Intergroups.

Identified three sources of information regarding DA Intergroups to familiarise themselves with:

- Debtors Anonymous Service Manual – DAMS Chapter 3 pp 55-58
- The Intergroup Service Handbook
- 3rd March 2019 Fellowship Wide Call presented by WSC Intergroup Caucus 'United We Stand: Importance of Intergroups

BUSINESS DEBTORS ANONYMOUS – BDA Creates visibility for the BDA group to provide information and tools to newcomers.

Completed 4 Fellowship wide calls during the year - a speaker series where three speakers shared their ESH for 15 minutes. Reviewed existing literature of speaker stories and selected 3 stories for publishing

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE - concerned with the general welfare of the WSC. Submitted three Early motions to World Service Conference see Committee Motions below.

FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE COMMITTEE – facilitates communication and promotes collaboration among debtors who still suffer. They Changed their mission statement to include the addition of the project “Debtors Anonymous Founders Day. The inaugural Founders Day was held on 15th April this year to commemorate the 49th year of Debtors Anonymous. Held Promise 6 Day on 14 June 2025. The DA Instagram account is now in place.

HOSPITALS INSTITUTIONS AND PRISONS – HIP Their focus is to carry the message to Hospitals, Institutions and Prisons using the HIP starter kit. Their goal is to work on getting DA meetings in prisons. Organised a business meeting with past members of HIP Committee. Started meeting in Cook County Prison, Chicago, using damaged literature from GSO. Held their first meeting in May, second one in June.

GLOBAL COMMITTEE- connect members around the world. Developed a global contact list of non-English speaking members for translators. The suffering debtor needs recovery. So far, there are 50 registered people on the list. Encouraged GSR's and ISR's to announce DA is looking for translators

LITERATURE COMMITTEE – DA conference approved literature. At the 2024 WSC they had 8 members. Throughout the year this committee lost 3 of its 8 members and 5 out of 12 meetings. Wrote and got approval for “Young Peoples in Debtors Anonymous” voices flier to collect stories of solvency from current members or members who came into DA when they were 35 years of age or under. Looking for more stories, submit these to youngvoicesphamplet@debtorsanonymous.org

*The BDA focussed Australian Meeting is now closed.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – carry the message of DA to the still suffering debtor. Attended the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in Austin, Texas 2023 and Seattle, Washington 2024. Event was attended by several hundred people from all areas of bankruptcy. In UK - Endeavouring to start a DA group/podcast in an international law firm in London. The project was consistently pushed back on the agenda. PI will continue attending meetings to discuss the implementation of this project. Work in Canada - Putting up tear-away flyers on community billboards. encouraged home group members to attend media training. Supporting a fellow setting up a meeting in Japan, sending translated flyers. Starting a meeting in Northern Canada with support from Intergroup for venue hire.

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT – focus on revenue and resources
This committee was reinvigorated this year; it was dissolved in 23/24 WSC year
Responded to Issues and concern request
Held three fellowships wide calls on:

1. "Celebrating the Wealth of Our Shared DA Resources"
2. "Demystifying the John H Scholarship"
3. "Solvency and Permission to Earn More"

TECH COMMITTEE – harnessing technology to improve access to DA resources. Advises the conference and GSB and provide hands on technical expertise. Created two subcommittees' Tools, Training and Support and the Website

I joined the Public Information Committee and attended meetings all day.

The minutes of the World Service Conference 2024 Ontario were passed. The conference began with the Serenity Prayer followed by the readings of steps, traditions, concepts and charter

Roberts Rules were explained by Mary R she highlighted:

- Every convocation is different
- Do one thing at a time do not mix issues e.g. the cost of the conference will not be discussed until a motion is made
- Follow the procedure, present motion, debate, then vote on motion

COMMITTEE MOTIONS

The Conference Committee update the current Section 6 of the Charter WSC by inserting after the first sentence: "The location may be in-person or virtual." Motion Passed.

In the Conference Charter Section 3 change voting, insert 2/3rd registered groups instead of ¾. During the first round the motion barely passed. Minority voice spoke there was some discussion and on the second round the of voting the Motion did not pass. Add third voting option to "abstain" in addition to "for" and "against". Motion passe

Create a retirement caucus to gain clarity around issues of preparing and thinking about retirement – Motion passed

FELLOWSHIP DAY the “**Theme Everyone belongs**” included a lunchtime Keynote speaker, workshops, visioning and Gala dinner with a Keynote speaker, Talent show and Dance.

Fellowship Communication Committee Change name of Promise Six Week to DA Fellowship Week – Passed on the first round. On second voting Motion did not pass Change the name of DA Publication Ways and Means to Within Our Means - Motion did not pass.

Change its mission statement: Motion passed

Global Committee Change their Mission Statement: Motion Passed

Literature Committee Create a pamphlet on the 7th Tradition that will define what the 7th Tradition is and why it is important: Motion passed

Lit Comm and UUOC, to approve the concept of revising “The Twelve Signs of Compulsive Debting” bearing in mind issues of housing insecurity. Motion Passed To approve the development of a pamphlet outline on Gender Identity and Debt: Voices of Gender-expansive Debtors. Motion Passed To approve the development of a pamphlet outline “Experiences of Housing Insecurity: A Debtor’s Unspoken Fear.” Motion Passed

RECOMMENDATIONS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11GGcTJ18PhhJGjMbM49bi_nad9vpWMYo/view

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD - The GSB ratification was adopted two officers were sworn in, there were no objections. GSB are looking for Class B Trustees

The conference approved the location for the World Service Conference 2026 There were no bids for 2027.

NEXT YEAR’S HOST COMMITTEE - The gavel was passed from Aileen, Northern California Intergroup, to the incoming Host Committee Chair, Monty P, North Carolina DA Intergroup.

The 40th World Service Conference, will be held in San Francisco at Embassy Suites Hotel Burlingame, on 5th – 9th August 2026

There will be an online D.A Worldwide Convention in 2026 to celebrate 50 years of D.A Recovery. Looking for volunteers please fill out this form

<https://forms.gle/enHkDgi5PWSunjh17>. For general questions email da50@debtorsanonymous.org

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Geraldine H