WSO Delegate Report
New York South Area Assembly
October 23, 2022

2022 World Service Conference (WSC) Theme:
Enhancing Our Recovery Through Abundance, Unity, and Understanding
Enriquecer nuestra recuperación a través de la abundancia, unidad y comprensión
Enrichir notre rétablissement par l'abondance, l'unité et la compréhension

This report will cover:

- **Electronic and Physical Group Registrations**
- **July Chairman of the Board (COB) Letter**
- **July WSO Finance Letter**
- **Announcements**

I. Electronic and Physical Groups and Group Registrations

Recent communications from WSO stress that temporary electronic meetings have ample time to decide whether to return to a physical meeting format. There is no timestamp on this decision. Here's what WSO says:

"Once an Area has a process to accept electronic Al-Anon groups, any new electronic group that registers can register directly with the Area. These are some additional scenarios to consider:

- Groups that are temporarily meeting online and decide to remain online are already registered and connected to the Area and a District; they are just changing their meeting location.
- Online groups that have separated from the in-person meeting will be able to register as a new group and connect to your Area once the Area process has been approved.
- Only those groups that are currently part of the GEA *(Global Electronic Area)* that wish to join your Area will have to petition to join."

In other words…

As long as the group has a physical address on their WSO Group Registration Form and is meeting at the time shown, they are still part of the NYSA Area and may participate in service through their GR. *The same applies to physical meetings with an electronic component.*

However, electronic meetings that have split off from the original physical group, or have added new meetings at different times will eventually need to get their own registration number and decide whether they wish to join the GEA or NYSA.

How to Update Temporary Electronic Group Records

WSO is asking all temporary electronic meetings to update their online group record with WSO, so that new and old members can find them. Please fill out a temporary group change form at: https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records/
On that page, click on "Temporary Al-Anon Electronic Meeting Change Form" or use this link:
https://form.jotform.com/ 01006291804141

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Important Note: If your group hasn't kept a copy of your group record, please ask your District Rep (DR) for help in locating your WSO Registration number. If you don't have a DR, feel free to reach out to the Area Group Records Coordinator or me. And please share this request with your group's CMA so that newcomers and long-timers looking for a meeting can find you!

II. July 2022 Chairman of the Board Letter (COB)
<https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/>

- July was the first time since Jan. 2022 that the Board met in-person at WSO in Virginia Beach. They celebrated by holding a meet-and-greet with staff and having an ice cream social.
- Considering weather, cost, and convenience, the Board has decided to meet virtually for January Board Week on a permanent basis.
- The 2022 International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM), "Connecting Hearts and Minds Around the World," will take place in London, England, October 12-15, 2022. So far, 18 service structures have registered. Following the IAGSM, some ICC members will visit nearby and emerging structures.
- The Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) presented to the Board, the need to either postpone or reduce the scope of some of the current Strategies. Considering the capacity of WSO Staff and resources, the Board agreed to the following adjustments:

  Strategies to be reduced in scope:
  - CAL Globally in All Languages
  - Updated and Translated Guidelines
  - Alateen Electronic Meetings
  - Animations/Cartoons via Social Media

  Strategies to be postponed:
  - Electronic Payments from Al-Anon Family Groups
  - Member Guidance Regarding Bequests
  - Phase 2 of the Online Store Upgrade

  In addition to their regular responsibilities, WSO Staff is working on the following:
  - New Daily Reader (including translation)
  - Translation of the *Service Manual*
  - Electronic Meeting Transformation
  - 2023 International Convention
  - 2022 Road Trip!
  - IAGSM in London
  - First Longitudinal Study

III. Finance Update from Cindy M., Treasurer/Trustee
<https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/>

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These numbers are based on unaudited financial statements for period ending 06/30/2022.

Revenues (Income)

Literature sales for June were $176,684 (down from $305,423 in May). Contributions for June were $373,444 (up from $165,524 in May). The increase is likely due to the May quarterly and special appeal letters.

Expenses

Expenses for June were $533,547.

Deficit Budget

With the revised budget, as of June 30th, we project a six-month deficit of $234,134. We are already $120,715 over that amount.

Year to Date (YTD) June 2022

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Revised Budget
Revenue				
Literature Sales—net	$1,025,141	$1,005,215	$2,057,461	$2,156,210
Contributions	$1,324,217	$1,390,939	$2,850,000	$2,917,980
Other Income	$192,996	$276,300	$552,600	$546,600
Total Revenue	$2,542,354	$2,672,454	$5,460,061	5,620,790
Total Expenses	$2,897,203	$2,906,588	$5,813,175	$5,953,520
Net Increase/(Decrease)	($354,849)	($234,134)	($353,114)	($332,730)

Reflections

As Tradition Seven states, “Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.” What does it mean to be fully self-supporting, both financially and in terms of service positions?

We saw in the COB letter some of the many ways WSO supports the fellowship. So how can our fellowship support WSO?

- Sign up for automatic contributions
- Buy/gift a book or Forum subscription to a sponsee or newcomer
- Encourage your group to create a budget to know how much (or in what percentage) to contribute to each service arm

How to Create a Group Budget:

List group expenses, such as rent, literature, GR and IR expenses, and an ample reserve. Consider how to contribute to the links of service that support us—WSO, Area, District and AIS.

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Each year, WSO calculates the value of its services to each group in the U.S. and Canada ($281.88 for 2022). The other three service arms can do the same, by taking their annual expenses and dividing them by the number of groups they support. Here's Cindy's example:

	Number of groups	Annual Expenses	Annual cost/group
Area	350	$35,000	$100
District	20	$2,000	$100
AIS	120	$12,000*	$100

*excludes literature purchases

Actual Costs based on Example:

To simplify, we can round up the WSO's annual cost per group to $300. To be fully self-supporting, a group would contribute about $600 per year to the four service arms ($300 to WSO, $100 to Area, $100 to District, and $100 to AIS). Or, $50 per month to all four.

Percentages to each Service Arm

"But not every group can afford to send $50 per month to the four service arms!" Another way to look at self-support is in terms of percentages. Based on the four hypothetical budgets, after covering group expenses, members might consider contributing 50% of what they have left over to WSO, and dividing the other 50% among the other three service arms.

These are just suggestions, and every group is autonomous. WSO is grateful for any support we can give as members, groups, districts, AISs, and Areas!

IV. Announcements:

- **New Assoc. Director of the International Coordination Committee (ICC):** Jennifer U., from Illinois North Area brings a wealth of international experience and Area service, and also speaks eight languages!

- **Heartfelt Condolences:** At age 102, Mary R. passed on in August 2022. An Al-Anon pioneer, Mary R. co-founded the first African American Al-Anon group in Philadelphia and did much Area service. She was also the Al-Anon keynote speaker at a recent NYSA Discovery Convention. Mary R. is survived by her daughter, Panel 62 Delegate and past-WSO volunteer. Memorial contributions to WSO may be made in Mary R's memory.

- **Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect:** Oct. 28, 2022, Columbus, OH
  Register Now! Limit: 120 participants. *Link to Register*:
  https://al-anon.org/wso-events/road-trip-you-and-your-board-connect/
  - Meet and interact with the entire Board of Trustees and Executive Committee following Fall Board Week in Columbus, Ohio

- **The 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, version 2**, is available online at:

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https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/
The physical manual will be available for purchase by the end of the year. This version of the Service manual contains the new, colorful WSC Structure graphic (see last page of this report or download your own):
https://al-anon.org/pdf/WSC-Structure-Graphic-8_5x11.pdf

- **The electronic 2022 World Service Conference Summary** is available in English, Spanish, and French: https://al-anon.org/for-members/world-service-conference-wsc/world-service-conference-summary/ Physical copies of the 2022 WSC Summary may be purchased through the Online Bookstore! Cost: $5.00 plus shipping.

- **New WSO initiative:** over the next few months, all printed Al-Anon CAL will also be offered as e-books in English, Spanish, and French!

- **CAL Price Increase:** For the first time since 2011, WSO has raised the prices on some Conference Approved Literature. This is due to increased paper costs, and to the need to remain fully self-supporting.

- **WSO At-Large Committees**: Oct. 29th is the deadline for members to apply to be an At-Large member of the Audit, Forum Editorial Advisory, Literature, or Public Outreach committees. Please fill out a resume using this link: https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/at-large-committees/ To apply, Al-Anon members need five years in the program; Alateens need one year.

- **Executive Committee:** Members with ten years in Al-Anon, and Area service experience, who are interested in becoming an At-Large member, can submit your resumes by November 15, 2022: https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/executive-committee/executive-committee-application/

- **Tours Resuming at WSO Office:** Once again, members can arrange for a tour of WSO in Virginia Beach by reserving 24 hrs in advance through <al-anon.org/tourwso>. WSO Staff looks forward to welcoming you!

- **New Hopes, New Friends, Renewed Recovery:** Al-Anon's International Convention in Albuquerque, NM! June 29 (Day of Connecting), Convention: June 30, July 1-2, 2023 Registration opens on November 1, 2022. Here's the link: https://al-anon.org/wso-events/2023-al-anon-international-convention/

    - **Service Opportunity:** The International Convention's Host Committee is looking for volunteers to give two hours each, as greeters, registrars, etc. In addition to English, it's helpful if some volunteers speak other languages (French, Spanish, German, etc.). If interested, please get in touch! <nys60delegate@gmail.com>

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V. In Closing…

This has been an amazing, growth-filled, service experience for me. I've truly enjoyed working with all the Group Reps and Area trusted servants of this panel. And as Delegate, I've grown so much in my understanding of the worldwide fellowship. It has been a delight to be the bridge of understanding between our Area and WSO. If you have any questions about being a GR, DR, Alternate Delegate, or Delegate, I'm happy to share my experience, strength, and hope with you. Wishing you the best in your service journey.

With love and gratitude,
Emily D-C, NYSA Panel 60 Delegate
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