

Courage to change
the things I can – ME!

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Greetings!! I am glad we are able to try our first in person AWSC of this Panel 61 term! Thank you for the opportunity to serve and grow as Pennsylvania's Delegate. I have much to learn and much to share!

As we continue this weekend and in the days ahead, let us keep our Panel theme close >

"Embracing the future in unity and courage"

"Abrazar el futuro en unidad y valor"

Please find included in this report the following:

1. *2021 World Service Conference Summary*
2. *Chosen Agenda Items Index*
3. *211 Community Information*
4. *AFG Connects*
5. *Next Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*
6. *Al-Anon / Alateen Meeting Readings FAQs*
7. *WSO & Board Updates*
8. *Conflict Resolution Workshop*
9. *Timely Topics*
10. *Delegate's Corner & other Area News*

Hope you enjoy this report and your Al-Anon service journey! Let me know if you need additional information on these topics or others. **Thanks!**

2021 Word Service Conference Summary

So neat to see the Conference in print! I hope all of you drive into it further and see all that was discussed in detail. Let me know if you have any questions. The Conference summary is not translated into Spanish and French but the WSC Conference Highlight Document is. Check of my Delegates Corner on the PA Al-Anon website for the 2021 WSC Highlight documents in English and Spanish.

[Delegate Report May AWSC & 2021 WSC Highlights](#)



The 2022 WSC Summary can be purchased from your local Literature Distribution Center or from the WSO online store for \$5 in Sept.

Can view online now [2021 WSC Summary](#)

or download a PDF at [Download 2021 WSC Summary](#)

al-anon.org/for-members/world-service-conference-wsc/

Chosen Agenda Item Index

Chosen Agenda Item (CAI) discussions have been taking place at Al-Anon's Annual World Service Conferences since 1976. The purpose of the CAIs is to give all Conference members (Delegates, members of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, and voting members of the World Service Office administrative Staff) an opportunity to submit and select topics and issues of concern that affect Al-Anon groups and members worldwide for discussion at Conference.

There is an updated Index of the Chosen Agenda Items on the WSO website! Hover over the "Members" tab, then hover over "World Service Conference," then click on "Chosen Agenda Items." The Index of Chosen Agenda Items is a dynamic,

user-friendly resource for all of our members. Please share the news with members in your District. For more information, follow this link: [Index of Chosen Agenda Items](#). Please note that because changes will occur to the Index as it is kept up to date, as well as any corrections that may need to be made, the WSO asks that links of service websites include a link on their website to the Index on the al-anon.org website.

At our February AWSC meeting we will discuss what Chosen Agenda Items (we can submit one or two) we would like to submit for consideration for the 2022 WSC. The deadline for Delegates to submit topics is March 25, 2022.

211 Community Information

I wanted to inform you that the WSO has been receiving requests to update their 211 Information from various organizations around the country. These have been coming to the WSO most likely due to the contact email address being listed as wso@al-anon.org.

However, the nature of these services is to provide information about local resources. And since the WSO is responsible for information beyond the local level, they feel that these would be better supported by local members.

This can be handled with a two-phased approach:

1. DRs or District PO Coordinators, check to see if such a service exists in your area, perhaps cities/counties may have their own individual service which can be updated with information about our program along with local contact information and a way to find meeting information.
2. As the WSO receives these requests, they will be forwarded to the Area Public Outreach Coordinator, Area Public Information Coordinator, or Area Delegate in case those positions are vacant, to follow any Area process for providing this to the trusted servant most likely able to provide the most accurate and complete information.

So, how is being listed in the United Way directory not affiliation? Let's refer to the "Cooperation and Goodwill Strengthen Public Outreach" portion (page 124) of the Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies section of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual version two (2)* [P-24/27].

"Al-Anon fulfills its primary purpose most effectively by cooperating with others and creating goodwill in the media and in the professional community.

Al-Anon is cooperating when it works with others, rather than alone. In working with others, our scope and contacts are broadened and we reach many more of

those in need. However, we would give the impression of affiliation if we posted links to professional services on an Al-Anon website or if we added the Al-Anon name as a sponsor or co-sponsor for a commercial or community event."

There have been cases where the WSO has been asked to review outreach materials and noted that Al-Anon was listed as a sponsor and we provided feedback that we could not approve as it gives the impression of affiliation.

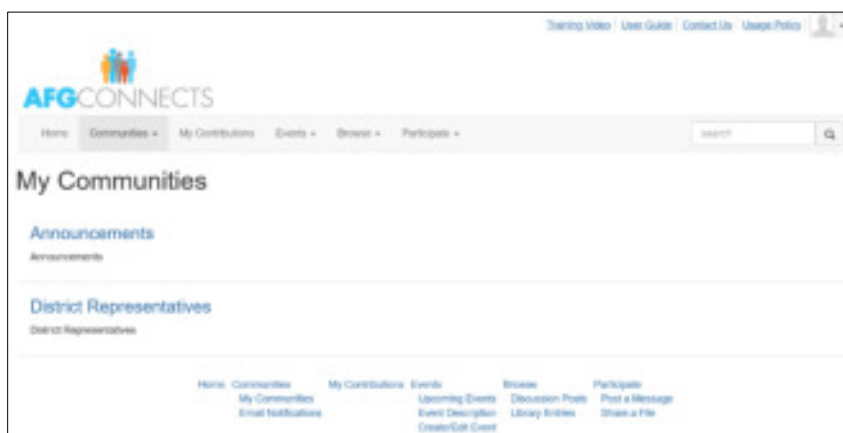
It goes on to say:

"The concept of goodwill is simply maintaining our positive relationships and reputation as we work with others. Al-Anon exhibits goodwill when it works harmoniously in the community to provide information and carry the message of hope."

This suggests that by being positive and providing information we are strengthening our public outreach. We believe this includes updating local directories and providing contact information to any organization who wishes to list Al-Anon as a public resource just so long as Al-Anon is not listed as a sponsor or co-sponsor.

AFG Connects

Are you connected to your service community on AFG Connects? If you need help logging on, please reach out for help to a fellow Panel member or myself. Lets take a walk through how to navigate the online communities. It is searchable by topics and you can post your own questions or topics. DRs, your Districts group records are at your fingertips, 24/7 and you can link to the online change form from the online group records! Your username and password follows you through your service positions. Here are a few images of AFG Connects from the DR community perspective.



- Under Resources you can find the link to the Online Group Records – view only

The screenshot shows the AFGCONNECTS website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Training Videos, User Guide, Contact Us, and Usage Policy. Below the logo, there is a search bar and a menu with options like Home, Communities, My Contributions, Events, Browse, and Participate. The main content area is titled 'District Representatives' and includes sections for 'Latest Discussion Posts' and 'Community Administrator'. In the 'Resources' section, a link for 'Online Group Records' is visible, along with contact information for AFGRecords@afg-anon.org.

This screenshot shows the 'WSO Online Group Records' search interface. It features a search bar with the text 'Search for Al-Anon groups in Area 48_PA'. Below the search bar are input fields for Group ID, Meeting City, Zip/Postal Code, District (set to 0012), and Status. There are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. The interface also includes links for 'Search Video', 'Reports Video', and 'Administer Alateen Groups'.

- Online Group Records are searchable

This screenshot shows the 'WSO Online Group Records' search interface with search results displayed. The search criteria are 'Search for Al-Anon groups in Area 48_PA'. The results table lists three groups: 'Courage To Change AFG', 'Newcomers Meeting AFG', and 'Presque Isle AFG'. Below the table, there are options to 'Change Log' and 'Reports Video'.

Groups matching search criteria (click on row to see group details) (click column header to sort list)							
	ID	Group Name	Status	City	Zip	District	Reg Date
Details	12084	Courage To Change AFG	Active	Erie	16511	0012	1/1/1975
Details	12086	Newcomers Meeting AFG	Active	Erie	16508	0012	4/1/1973
Details	12089	Presque Isle AFG	Active	Erie	16505	0012	7/18/1974

- In the meeting details / overview there is a link to go to the Online Change Form

Overview Meeting Details CWB GR Notes Change Log

Overview Help

Group ID: 12000 Group Name: **Courage To Change AFG**
 District: 0012 Status: **Active**

Registered Date: 01/01/1975 No Mail Date
 Inactive Date Annual Update Date: 05/24/2017

Mail Language: **English**

Location: Faith Lutheran Church
 5414 East Lake Rd.
 Erie, PA 16511
 USA Location Latitude: 42.1728
 Location Longitude: -79.8946

Contacts: Terry (814) 450-4757

Group Email: [REDACTED]
 Group Email Verify Date: 08/25/2021

[Go To Online Change Form](#)

[Group Detail Report](#)

Meeting ID	Area/Coordinator's Meeting ID or Details	Meeting Type	Area	Meeting Date	Meeting Time
Details	12009 Presque Isle AFG	Active	Erie	16505-0012	7/18/1974
Details	12092 Step And Tradition AFG	Active	Erie	16506-4548-0012	2/1/1976

COVID-19 UPDATED May 20, 2020 English Home French

Home Newcomers Meetings Members Contributions Calendar Online Store Search

Members Page > Group Resources > Group Records > Changes to an Existing AL-Anon Group

Al-Anon Family Groups
 Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics

Al-Anon Group Records Change

WSD ID Number:

Registered Group Name:

City: State/Province:

District Number: Area Code:

COVID-19 UPDATED May 27, 2020 English Spanish French

Home Newcomers Meetings Members Contributions Calendar Online Store Search

Members Page > Group Resources > Group Records

Changes to an Existing AL-Anon Group

Some Areas require that all changes be submitted through the Area Process. In order to process the change in a timely manner, groups are encouraged to contact their District Representative (DR) or Area Group Records Coordinator for information about the Area Process. Changes can also be sent directly to the WSD.

Groups that are not receiving WSD or Area mailings can contact their Area Group Records Coordinator or the WSD Group Records Department to verify their Current Mailing Address (CMA) postal or email information is on file.

[UPDATE ONLINE](#)

[Printed Form](#) [Instructions](#) [Annual Update Instructions](#)

New Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2022-2025

The moment we have been waiting for is getting closer! The new Service Manual is scheduled to be available for online download in January and the print version is April 2022. There were many policy changes especially around Electronic Groups and how we define meeting location, District, and Areas etc. Since Electronic meetings are AFGs now all the working of the Service Manual applies to them too. Also, you will notice some housekeeping around verbiage to meet our diverse fellowship and modern time.

Al-Anon / Alateen Meeting Readings FAQs

- 1) Does a group need to ask permission to screenshare the text of the Preamble, Steps, Traditions, Concepts, Closing (like in a Word doc), similar to how Electronic meetings need to request permission?
- 2) Al-Anon groups that are book studies often read a chapter from CAL (How Al-Anon Works, Paths to Recovery, etc) and then shares on it. Or sometimes when a member is introducing a topic for discussion at a group they read large segments from CAL. In those cases, does the group need permission to read such a large amount of CAL at a meeting if they are temporary on zoom or have an electronic meeting component?

Al-Anon groups that are temporarily meeting on online platforms do not need to request permission to display the Preamble, Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Closing as long as they are directly copied (not re-typed) onto a word doc. Preserving the copywritten word is of utmost importance. Members can copy directly from the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* version 2 (P-24/27) for the meeting readings and source the Service Manual. And they can also copy the Legacies from al-anon.org. If they highlight it correctly, they can even copy the credit line that appears at the bottom of the page. Click here for the page: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/the-legacies/>.

Any reading can be done without restriction as long as the meeting is not being recorded.

Here is a Word doc I made that has the meeting readings and the Legacies. I hope this helps! [Al-Anon/Alateen Meeting Readings 2021](#).

WSO & Board Update

The Board of Trustees had a virtual board week meeting October 18 - 23, 2022. Here are some highlights from the from the meeting. Within this month the Chairperson of the Board October Letter along with Policy, Conference Leadership Team (CLT) and Finance updates will be posted on the al-anon.org website / members / Board of Trustees tabs.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

The 2022 WSC will be held April 26-30, 2022, at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York. There will be a visit to Stepping Stones during the 2022 WSC. The theme for the next WSC is –

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

Because of last year's motion to accept electronic meetings as groups, it was recognized that the Al-Anon WSC Charter needed to be amended to reflect the changes. The Conference will have an opportunity to review and approve the revised wording. The Conference Leadership Team (CLT) us hopeful to welcome a Delegate from the non-geographic, non-panel Area to an historic World Service Conference—our first new Area since Alaska was admitted to the World Service Conference in 1987.

POLICY

The Policy committee is continuing its discussion on updates to the Announcing and Workshop section of the Service Manual as well as the Local Services Section. In addition, there is a Social Media and Public Outreach Task Force (Social Media TF) which is continuing its discussion on the policy of creating and sharing blogs, profiles, and social media pages.

FINANCE

Revenues (Income)

Revenue consists mainly of literature sales and contributions. Other revenue includes magazine sales and investment gains or losses. Literature sales for September were \$227,190. Contributions for September were \$172,624. See the table below for YTD Actuals vs YTD Budget, and Revised Budget.

Expenses

The largest categories of expenses consist of WSO Staff salaries and benefits, PSAs (public service announcements), technology support, and postage. Expenses for September were \$443,571. See the table below for YTD Actuals vs. YTD Budget, and Revised Budget. Expenses are continually monitored and reduced them wherever possible.

Year to Date (YTD) September 2021

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	Revised Budget
Revenue			
Literature Sales- net	\$1,409,369	\$1,477,270	\$1,993,000
Contributions	\$1,806,064	\$1,793,535	\$2,543,535
Other income	\$473,610	\$422,700	\$563,600
Total Revenue	\$3,689,043	\$3,693,505	\$5,100,135
Total Expenses	\$3,799,434	\$4,000,425	\$5,333,888
Net Increase/(Decrease)	\$(110,391)	\$(306,920)	\$(233,753)

Message from Cindy Y, Treasurer – *“While this report reflects three-quarters of the year, and it may appear that we are on track to meet our revised year-end budget, we do know that literature sales are lagging, and we could possibly end the year with a higher deficit than expected. The continuing impact of out-of-stock literature—occurring due to printing industry challenges with paper shortages, nationwide staffing issues, and shipping delays— could also have a larger effect as we return to a normal level of literature purchases. It is worthy to note that contributions continue to exceed net literature sales. This is due to your consistent, continuous contributions. We can’t express our gratitude enough to everyone—individuals, groups, Districts, AIS/LDCs, Areas, and GSOs!*

The World Service Office (WSO) continues to monitor and reduce expenses wherever they can, but it is the fellowship who can increase our income. As we continue to attract new members and grow our fellowship, it will take more resources to support the fellowship. So, as we begin the budgeting process for 2022, we would like to remind you of a few items of importance. We will be planning for full staffing; holding our annual World Service Conference (WSC) in New York and visiting Stepping Stones; and holding the International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) in London, England. Therefore, labor, Conference, and travel costs will be

higher than 2021. If we think abundantly and share this information openly throughout the fellowship, all members will have the information needed to continue to support the WSO, so that the WSO can continue to support the fellowship! Remember, let's focus on "Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity, and Understanding!"

OTHER BOARD NEWS

Now for some really exciting news! The International Coordination Committee (ICC) reviewed a request from the structure in Russia to become a GSO. The ICC recommended to the Board, and the Board unanimously passed a motion, to approve Russia's request to register a General Service Office on a three-year trial basis. For more information on Al-Anon outside of the World Service Conference Structure, go to: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/international>

Strategic Plan Updates: At the October 2021 Board meeting, Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) presented their recommendations. Board members approved SLT moving forward with the following 2022 Strategies:

- Goal: Public—Examine the opportunity for an Al-Anon member of the WSO Staff to speak in a professional capacity representing the WSO at professional events
- Goal: Public—Create animations/cartoons from existing newcomer content for distribution through appropriate social media platforms
- Goal: Members—Investigate and recommend systems that allow us to take additional electronic forms of payment from Al-Anon Family Groups
- Goal: Members—Reduce Staff time by improving WSO communications regarding what members need to know about contributing through bequests and wills

WSO Staff has done an outstanding job moving the 2021 Strategies forward. The Strategies from 2021 that will be ongoing into 2022 are:

- Pilots to increase access to CAL globally in all languages
- Alateen Groups Meeting Electronically
- Al-Anon Family Groups Mobile App Premium Content Process Implementation
- Guidelines Update and Translation In addition to working on the above Strategies,

WSO Staff will be working on major projects such as:

- Electronic Meeting Transformation
- 2023 Al-Anon International Convention
- First Longitudinal Study
- 2022 International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM)
- NEW DAILY READER (working title) Translation
- 2022-2025 Service Manual Translation

MESSAGE UPDATE TO THE FELLOWSHIP REGARDING COVID-19

Through the pandemic, the WSO posts a message on the website to the fellowship. You can see the latest update by clicking on the top header of the website <https://al-anon.org>. Here is the update from September 30, 2021 [Message Update to the Fellowship Regarding COVID-19](#).

“The World Service Office (WSO) recognizes the emergence of COVID-19 variants of concern, particularly the Delta variant, has led some groups to begin reevaluating their meeting approach if they have been meeting in-person or in a hybrid format. As a clearinghouse of information for the Al-Anon Family Groups, the WSO has no informed guidance to offer on health matters. As in every challenging situation though, our experience, strength, and hope encourage us to rely on the principles found in the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service as guides. In this situation particularly, we recognize the wisdom expressed in Tradition Two which urges the WSO, Areas, Districts, and groups to rely upon “one authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.”

In making informed decisions, we suggest groups, Districts, and Areas access reliable national and local health authorities to gain the knowledge necessary to talk to each other and reason things out. Al-Anon’s Twelve Traditions offer guidance. Tradition One reminds groups that our common welfare should come first in these conversations. Tradition Four invites groups to be flexible in considering alternatives that limit personal contact, while Tradition Three reminds each group in part that “the only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend.” Of utmost importance is providing an environment which allows Al-Anon newcomers and members the opportunity to feel safe and maintains the unity of the group.

If your group is meeting electronically or in a hybrid format, or decides to return to one of these formats, we encourage you to notify your local service arms and to update your group record with temporary contact or electronic meeting details using the [Temporary Al-Anon Electronic Meeting Change Form](#).

To ensure our Staff safety and wellbeing at the WSO, we monitor current information from the Governor of Virginia, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the World Health Organization (WHO). As a result, the WSO remains open—shipping Conference Approved Literature to members, answering member calls, and processing member contributions to support our fellowship worldwide. We are continuing our implementation of proactive measures recommended to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

In May 2021, the WSO invited the Thursday evening Al-Anon and Alateen groups to return to the building to meet, provided they adhered to specific protocols. At that time, we also began planning to reopen the building for scheduled tours and WSO Volunteer visits. Unfortunately, the emergence of the Delta variant has postponed these plans for the time being. We look forward to future updates when we will once again be able to welcome our members and Volunteers at the WSO.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to be of service to our Al-Anon Family Groups.”

Conflict Resolution Workshop 2021 (from WSC)

Conflict Resolution Workshop 2021 – prepared by the Conflict Resolution Workshop Task Force. Let’s give it a try!

The WSC members produced great resources for us to use. I am providing the Conflict Resolution Workshop information at this meeting because I feel our groups and District may find it timely. Please see the Nov AWSC webpage for the link to the document for your use or click on above live link.

Timely Topics



Now accepting Timely Topics! As we did at our in-person AWSC and Assemblies, we are continuing this opportunity for information exchange. As many of you know, Timely Topics is where members in service submit their current questions to the Delegate for answers, guidance, or clarification. We do have segments at our AWSC set aside on Saturday and Sunday for answering these types of questions. **You can submit Timely Topics electronically one week prior to the AWSC, as well as during the entire AWSC weekend.**

You can email me at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org with a Timely Topic or submit your question using this google form: [Timely Topic Submission Form](#) or the paper form at the meeting. The link to the form can also be found on our November AWSC meeting webpage <https://pa-al-anon.org/awsc61nov2021/> We are interested in your timely topics. Ralph H., Alt. Delegate, and I will strive to help in your areas of concern. We will respond to topics either by email or as part of the AWSC agenda. A summary of all the Timely Topics answered at and outside of our AWSC meeting will be posted on the meeting's webpage. We ask for your contact info to offer replies but that is optional. All answers will be presented and summarized anonymously.

Delegate's Corner



Did you know there is a [Delegate's Corner](#) , [Alt. Delegate's Corner](#), and [Other Area News & Corners](#) on our PA Al-Anon website? Check back now and then for new articles. We do posts of information and stories for our Panel as well as to our General Membership. Thank you, Ruth H., website coordinator, and her committee and Ralph H., Alt. Delegate, for your help with getting this up and rolling and its future management.

Thank you & let me know how I can be of service!



Thank you for reading this report and for being of service to your District, our Area and our fellowship. Your support and prayers mean much to me. And be assured of my prayers for you. Let me know your thoughts and any other information you would like. I value and welcome your feedback and comments. Wishing you the JOY of service! Keep our Legacies close 😊

Please don't hesitate to call me on my cell at (814) 897-5320 or email me at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org.



PS. Have you checked out *Links of Service* (S-28) and *Joy of Service* (S-57) lately? They are free for download from the WSO online store or check with your local LCDs to purchase 😊

“We are all Al-Anon members doing the best we can in difficult situations, but we all want to make sure that this program is available when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help.” - ICC member at the European Zonal Meeting 9/2021