

WHO ATTENDS THE CONFERENCE, AND WHY?

In the descriptive text of Concept Four, we find our suggested guide as to who participates and why. The Delegates, who meet only once a year, are concerned primarily about policies, plans, and actions to take effect in the future. The WSO Staff and Volunteers, because of their daily work and regularly scheduled meetings, are the individuals who have more first-hand information on aspects of Al-Anon business related to the present. These groups of individuals bring different knowledge and perspectives on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. Thus, the Conference has access to spiritual guidance found through the collective wisdom of all Conference participants.

These individuals, despite their different service roles, share two common traits while at Conference:

1. They listen and participate in discussions on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole.
2. They vote on these matters.

Delegates:

Besides listening, participating, and voting on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole, Delegates bring the viewpoint of their Areas on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. They also return to their Areas to share a broader perspective of Al-Anon worldwide. Delegates are the bridge of understanding that links the groups in the Area with world Al-Anon. They are the trusted servants of Al-Anon as a whole. Read more about the Delegates in Concepts Two and Three as well as in the *World Service Handbook*.

WSO Volunteers, our Board of Trustees:

Besides listening, participating, and voting on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole, members of the Board of Trustees have a legal responsibility for the funds and services provided by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. The Board guards the legal rights of the Al-Anon fellowship, protects Al-Anon principles from distortion and dilution, and are the chief service arm of the World Service Conference. The Board of Trustees ensures the goals and directions of the Conference are carried out by the WSO in accordance with Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions. Read more about the Board of Trustees in Concept Seven.

WSO Volunteers, our Executive Committee:

Members of the Executive Committee also listen, participate, and vote on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. They are entrusted with legal management of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. This authority is granted to the Executive Committee by the Board of Trustees in order that the Executive Committee can provide oversight on daily affairs at the World Service Office. Delegates might know the Executive Committee best as the body that reviews presentations prior to Conference, but that is just a small part of the Committee's responsibilities delegated to them by the Board of Trustees. Read more about the Executive Committee in Concept Eight.

Voting WSO Staff Members, our Service Workers:

Voting WSO Staff members also listen, participate, and vote on matters affecting AI-Anon as a whole. They are AI-Anon members and paid workers at the WSO. Voting WSO Staff are in direct contact with AI-Anon members worldwide through correspondence and sometimes travel. They serve the fellowship in a variety of ways, all of which members have seen listed on the back of the Appeal letters. Voting WSO Staff not only support the world leadership of the Trustees, but they share world leadership with the Trustees. Read more about the Voting WSO Staff in Concept Eleven.

Non-Voting WSO Staff Members:

Non-Voting WSO Staff members work at the World Service Office in service roles affecting both the members of AI-Anon worldwide as well as other Staff and Volunteers. They often develop and implement new plans to more effectively provide services to the fellowship or for the Staff. They are a visible image of world service when members visit the WSO. Read more about non-voting WSO Staff in Concept Eleven and about the functions of WSO in the "World Service Handbook."

Chairperson of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM):

A task delegated to the ECRPM Chairperson at Conference is to ring the bell and keep everyone on time. However, the ECRPM Chairperson's primary responsibility is to ensure that the spirit and letter of the resolution to create the ECRPM and handle the management of our property is upheld. This includes the actual WSO building and its grounds. This is why the ECRPM Chairperson has voice limited to ECRPM business, but no vote at Conference. Read more about the ECRPM in Concept Eight.

Conference Recorders (*Conference Summary* and *Audio Recorders*):

The Conference Recorders ensure that an accurate record of the Conference is available to members and retained for the AI-Anon Archives.

International Representatives:

International Representatives come to gain information regarding the World Service Conference procedures and policies, to share a little about their service structure, and to participate in worldwide AI-Anon. Read their sharings in the *World Service Conference Summaries*.

Interpreters:

The Interpreters provide oral simultaneous translation services from English to French and English to Spanish and vice versa, when required, to make it possible for non-English-speaking WSC Members to participate in the Conference.