

DREAMING BIG
WITH 20|20 VISION

2020 World Service Conference*

***7/31/2020 update the 2020 World Service Conference Summary available on line**
<https://al-anon.org/pdf/P46-2020-web.pdf>

In light of government and health authorities' directives regarding COVID-19, the Board of Trustees decided to conduct an abbreviated virtual Conference- pertaining only to critical Board matters or postpone them to the 2021 WSC. The 60th Annual World Service Conference was held Monday, April 20 through Thursday, April 23, 2020. Attending were 92 voting members: 64 Delegates (including US, Bermuda, Canada and Puerto Rico), [SEP] Executive Director of the World Service Office (WSO), Board of Trustees, WSO Executive Committee, WSO Staff. There were 103 total in attendance, including non-voting WSO Staff, Interpreters, and Recorders. [SEP]

The virtual portion of the Conference consisted of two four-hour days of web conferencing. Some agenda items during the virtual portion of the Conference were the 2019 Auditors' Report, 2019 Annual Report, 2020 Finance Committee Report, and traditional approval of Trustee and Executive Committee for Real Property Management candidates. Just as during a face-to-face Conference, there was time at the end of each session for unanswered questions.

The hybrid portion of the Conference consisted of three days of discussion on AFG Connects. The topics presented during the hybrid portion of the Conference were the Electronic Meeting Work Group Report, the two Chosen Agenda Items, and reports from two Thought Forces and one Task Force. The "two minutes at the microphone" rule was adhered to by asking Conference members to keep their sharing to 300 words or less. Conference members embraced the format, took their turn "at the mic," and exchanged ideas just as if they were face-to-face!

A huge thank you to the World Service Office (WSO) Staff, members of the newly formed Staff Tech Team, and members of the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) who made this virtual/hybrid WSC happen in just under four weeks!!

2020 WSC free online *Conference Summary* is scheduled for posting in July. A printed version will be made available for the cost to of shipping and handling in August.

Policy discussions and Conference Approved Literature (CAL) discussions were postponed due to time constraints. The Annual Open Board of Trustees Meetings was held the afternoon of Friday, April 24th. A visit to the WSO headquarters in Virginia Beach was not possible this year. [SEP] Opening and Closing spiritual speakers and the outgoing Panel 58 Delegates three-minute talks were cancelled. All of these will be transcribed and published in the World Service Conference Summary. [SEP]

Highlights of the 2019 Audit [SEP]

As of December 31, 2019, our World Service Office (WSO) had total assets of \$11,059,746 and liabilities of \$1,530,745, leaving net assets of \$9,529,001 among three funds: General, Reserve, and Building. [SEP] Total assets increased: contributions (especially bequests) & investment income [SEP]exceeded budget; WSO didn't need to transfer money from reserve fund in 2019. [SEP]

Last year, income from operations totaled \$5,468,281 in the General Fund, and expenses for the year were \$5,383,762. As a result, the General Fund net assets increased by \$84,519. [SEP]

It was a strong year for Literature sales; top selling is still How Al-Anon Works (B-32) [SEP]and Courage to Change (B-17). E-books are a very small portion of literature sales [SEP](1%), and doesn't negatively impact our literature sales.

[SEP]eBooks available include: Alateen--Hope for Children of Alcoholics (eB-3), Courage To Change: One Day at a Time in Al-Anon II (eB-16), Having Had a Spiritual Awakening eB-25, Hope for Today eB-27, How Al-Anon Works eB-22. The Forum is also available in electronic form with a subscription. Literature sales yielded a gross profit of \$2,914,454, and contributions for the year were \$2,186,645. Forum subscription income totaled \$274,853. [SEP]

In October 2007, the Board of Trustees (BOT) approved annual transfers to the General Fund; these transfers could total up to 4% of the average fair value of the Reserve Fund for the 36 months leading up to December 31 of the prior year. The Finance Committee determined that a transfer to the General Fund was not needed to fund operations for 2019. [SEP] The General Administrative Services expenses decreased 17%. [SEP]

A net increase of \$998,237 was recorded in the Reserve Fund net assets. The Reserve Fund income included realized and unrealized gains totaling \$1,155,032. Included in the increase is a \$156,795 increase from the estimated postretirement health benefits liability. [SEP] Building Fund expenses are charged to

the General Fund as occupancy costs. A transfer of \$82,164 represents the occupancy costs for 2019. [L] [SEP]

Sources of revenue include Literature – 54%, Forum subscriptions – 5%, Investment Income – 1% and contributions – 40%.

Functional Expenses include Literature, Public Outreach, AFG Records, Group Services, International Services, World Service Conference, and Digital Strategies.

The Audit was released to WSC members on March 6, 2020 and the WSC voted to approve the report on April 22, 2020. [L] [SEP]

Budget for 2020 [L] [SEP]

The 2020 Budget showed that we expected expenses to be \$129,866 more than revenue for the year. We were estimating expenses to be \$5,773,026 and revenue to be \$5,643,160. [L] [SEP] Overall expenses were budgeted to increase in 2020. The increase was related to the costs of French and Spanish interpretation at the 2020 World Service Conference, execution of Strategic Plan Initiatives, expanded digital market for Public Service Announcements and facilitation of the International AI-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) in London. Salaries were budgeted for normal cost-of-living increases, which represent only a 1% increase in salary expense over 2019's budget.

WSO estimates income from 2020 literature sales to be comparable to 2019. Included in magazine sales are *The Forum* subscription and *AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism* (AFA) sales. We were budgeting contributions to be \$2,000,000, which is comparable to last year's budgeted amount. Beginning in 2008, we agreed to transfer up to 4% of the fair value of the Reserve Fund to the General Fund. For 2020, we had budgeted a transfer of 4% again. In addition, The Board of Trustees (BOT) voted to fund the Strategic Plan Initiatives from the Reserve Fund. The transfer of those initiatives total \$68,160 for 2020. [L] [SEP]

The Preliminary 2020 Budget was released to WSC members on March 6, 2020; the Budget was approved by the WSC voting members on April 22, 2020. [L] [SEP]

At Conference, and in the May 14 Appeal Letter from the Board of Trustees Treasurer, we continue to discuss the impact of the pandemic on our World Service Office and on our worldwide fellowship as a whole. The specifics of items

such as disposition of the payment of equalized expenses, drastic cuts in salaries and travel plans, cancelation of events continues to be transparently offered to the WSC members and the general membership of the fellowship. [SEP]

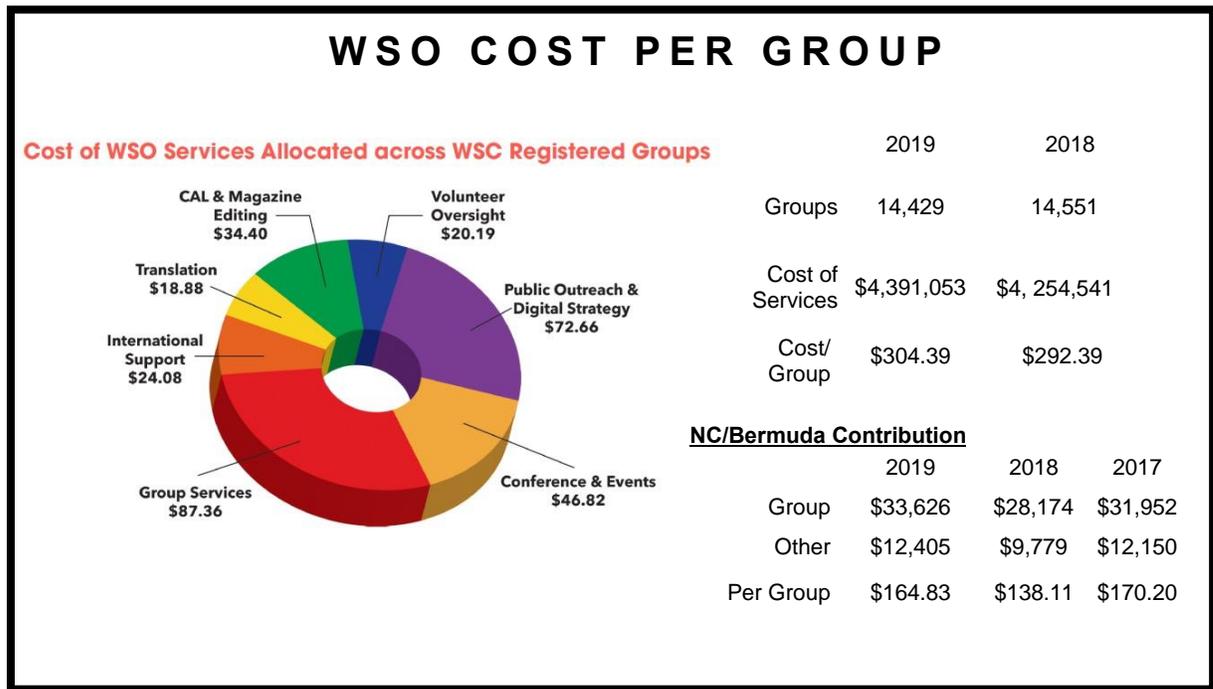
The Board of Trustees is planning to devote substantial time at the July Board Meeting and we hope to have more information for you when the Chairman of the Board (COB) letter comes out after that. [SEP]

WSO Expenses Per Group for 2019: [SEP]

In 2019, the average for US/Canada groups' contributions to WSO was \$152.61 with 64.53% of groups contributing. [SEP]

In 2019, there were 14,429 groups in the U.S. and Canada, down from 14,551 in 2018. [SEP]

The average cost of WSO services per group was \$304.39. [SEP]



++

In 2019 New York North Area 39, 64.0% of our registered groups donated an average of \$ 117.53 per group. [SEP] Our Area contributed \$20,450 including Area, Districts, Groups and Individuals. [SEP]

Trustees [L] [SEP]

The Board of Trustees (BOT) represents the legal and business side of our worldwide fellowship and is made of volunteers. [L] [SEP] The BOT is always actively seeking resumes for new Trustees. Duties of all Trustees are the same.

Regional Trustees present their resumes to their respective Areas, and then go through a process of Regional Selection and one chosen qualified candidate's resume is submitted to the BOT. [L] [SEP]

Trustees At Large submit their own resume directly to the Board. [L] [SEP]

The Conference gave Traditional Approval to the following nominees, who were then elected during the [L] [SEP] Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees, on Friday, April 24, 2020.

Trustee at Large: [L] [SEP]

- Teri M. Second three-year term [L] [SEP]
- Jeri W. First three-year term

Regional Trustee: [L] [SEP]

- Diane B., US South Central First three-year term
- Cindy M., US Southwest First three-year term [L] [SEP]

Board Officers, 2020-2021:

- Lynette K Chairperson of the Board
- Rosie M. Vice Chairperson of the Board
- Cathy T. Treasurer

The Board of Trustees, in its legal capacity, made the following one-year appointments:

- JP M. US Southeast Trustee
- Mary W., [L] [SEP] US Northwest Trustee
- Nancy S., [L] [SEP] Trustee At Large
- Elizabeth D. Executive Committee for Real Property Management (CPRM)

The Board of Trustees, in its legal capacity, elected the following: • Executive Committee:

- Debbie G. Second one-year term
- Karen W-P. Second one-year term

- Terry F. First one-year term
Chairperson of the Executive Committee:

- Debbie G. [L] [SEP]

Executive Committee for Real Property Management Chairperson:

- Kay R. One-year term.

***Please note:** The US Northeast Region Trustee (NERT) position is scheduled to rotate beginning April 2022. The deadline to file resumes to be considered is August 15, 2021. The time to fill out and file a resume for consideration by the NY North Area Assembly is this winter. Please pause and consider this service need. [L] [SEP]

If we have any members who would like to submit a resume please feel free to call or contact me and we can walk through the details together! [L] [SEP]

See the WSO website for a listing of Duties, Qualifications and the resume form. www.al-anon.org>Members>Board of Trustees>WSO Volunteers>Qualifications. [L] [SEP]

Highlights of the 2019 WSO Annual Report [L] [SEP]

The Annual Report lists the accomplishments of the WSO Staff and Volunteers (Board of Trustees). [L] [SEP] In response to many past requests, the 2019 WSC was the first tri-lingual Conference (English, Spanish, and French) and the first Conference with an Annual report released in all three languages simultaneously. WSO Staff made many upgrades to the WSO website in 2019. [L] [SEP] WSO Staff continued to answer “significant volumes of member inquiries” related to the following [L] [SEP] common themes: crosstalk, resolving group concerns, group bank accounts, how to welcome newcomers who express a family member problem other than alcohol, service participation by Al-Anon members who are also A.A. members, gender neutral language in service materials, dominance and lack of rotation of leadership, use of Alateen name at events that are not connected to an Area, and “Let’s Talk About Safety in Al-Anon Meetings.” [L] [SEP] The Alateen Service eManual is updated and available for all Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service. This is a vital resource for all of us because, after all, Alateen is a part of Al-Anon. [L] [SEP]

Electronic Meeting Work Group (EMWG) [L] [SEP]

Electronic Meetings continue to have a work group focused on bringing information back and forth between these groups and the World Service Office. Electronic Meetings (EM) are different from face to face Al-Anon meetings that are temporarily meeting electronically because of the pandemic. Those temporary electronic meetings are not counted as Electronic Meetings (EM) by WSO). [SEP]

Online Meetings total 129 (81 additional meetings are “multiple meetings” that are registered under the same WSO ID number) [SEP]

Phone Meetings total 155 (35 additional meetings are “multiple meetings” that are registered under the same WSO ID number) [SEP]

The total number of autonomous registered meetings is 284. When you add in the additional “multiple meetings” it [SEP] brings the total to 400 meetings taking place online or on the phone. The electronic meetings are held in a variety of languages, time zones and formats. Electronic meetings are listed at www.al-anon.org/meetings [SEP]

Electronic meetings do not have Group Representatives, are not confined to any geographic area, and do not belong to any District or Area. They are not part of the traditional service structure. They are connected directly to the WSO. They have a Current Mailing Address (CMA), who meets quarterly via WebEx meetings with WSO staff. They have their own AFG Connects community to talk with each other and the WSO and BOT. WSO developed a Welcome Kit for new members to Electronic meetings. You can find this at: www.al-anon.org/welcome

With the challenge of living during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, many Al-Anon groups scrambled to find ways to continue to meet and chose to meet temporarily online using many of the same platforms where permanent electronic meetings have been taking place. It is clear that members realize the importance of being able to welcome newcomers and offer hope despite the restrictions of the pandemic. Meeting in this new environment also brought questions of what and how to provide information to newcomers.

WSO is pleased to announce that the “Welcome” email shared with the 2020 virtual WSC members can now be received by newcomers to any electronic meeting – whether it be temporary or permanent. We encourage you to share/display this URL with any newcomers to your meetings. The link will prompt the recipient to enter their personal email address for them to receive the welcome email: www.al-anon.org/welcome .

Conference Approved Literature (CAL)

- **The New Daily Reader** (working title): First approved in 2014, the Literature Committee is reviewing 50 sharings per month. The first draft of 25% of the book has commenced. Three articles about it’s progress have been published in the May, June and October issues of The Forum. Plan is to have book written, approved, translated, designed and printed by July 2023 for the AI-Anon International Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- The **“Request for Reprint”** forms are now available as an online form at www.al-anon.org/reprint-permission. Use this form to request permission to reprint limited excerpts from copyrighted CAL.
- **20 quotations for use in fundraising calendars** without requesting written permission have been made available again this year.
- **Recovery magazines** – in addition to *The Forum*, the WSO produces *Le Lien* and *Al-Anon y Alateen en accion*, French and Spanish magazines. They contain excerpts from *The Forum* translated into French and Spanish.
- **Alateen Talk** is the quarterly publication of Alateen and AMIAS/Alateen Group Sponsors. A complimentary copy is mailed each registered Alateen group. It is also available by subscription. 2019 subscriptions increased by 25%, from 1,773 to 2,218. 2019 was the publication’s 55th anniversary and included sharings from Russian and Mexican Alateens, translated into English by members.

WSC Motion Log:

The following motions were made and approved by the voting members at the 2020 World Service Conference during the virtual portion of WSC:

- Seating of non-voting participants at the 2020 WSC
- Approval of the 2019 Auditor’s Report
- Approval of the 2019 WSO Annual Report
- Approval of the 2020 Financial Committee Report

THOUGHT FORCES AND TASK FORCES

- **Task Force: Reaching and Unifying Rural and Large Geographic Populations** The charge was to discuss ways we can work

are growing, while our face-to-face groups are getting smaller. The creation of an actual worldwide group conscience is not only desirable but imperative. All voices must be heard. How to make Al-Anon a truly global organization is a difficult task, with many visions. Input from the Conference can only further this goal.

Al-Anon in Other Countries:

Organized under a General Service Office (GSO) the WSO International Team provides guidance to 37 GSOs, 12 Service Boards and has meeting contacts in 70 other countries. New in 2019: first meetings registered in Mongolia and Mozambique. [L] [SEP]

Events and Planning for the Future

- **2020 A. A. Convention** in Detroit, MI – canceled. [L] [SEP]
- **2020 Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect** in Cleveland, OH – canceled. [L] [SEP]
- **Al-Anon's 70th Anniversary Celebration** [L] [SEP] Anniversary Banquet, Sat., April 17, 7:00 – 10:00 pm [L] [SEP] Held at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, NY. Anniversary attendees wishing to visit Stepping Stones, home of Bill and Lois, must contact Stepping Stones to check availability for a Monday through Saturday 1:00 pm tour. No walk-in tours. [L] [SEP] 2021 WSC closes on Friday, April 16, 2021. Tickets (price to be determined) will go on sale early next year and will be sold on a first come, first served basis for 500 guests maximum. Watch *In the Loop* for updates.
- **2023 Al-Anon 7th International Convention Update** To be held June 29 – July 2, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico [L] [SEP]
- **Mobile Al-Anon App** in 3 languages is due to be launched summer of 2020. Watch for it. [L] [SEP]
<https://al-anon.org/?s=al-anon+family+group+app&lang=en>
- **Hiring free-lance translators** to supplement the translators on staff (1 French & 1 Spanish) [L] [SEP] to catch up with literature translation. [L] [SEP]
- **Direct Ordering** of Spanish & French literature on the WSO [L] [SEP] website late summer [L] [SEP]

NERT [North East Regional Trustee] and NERD 2020

The WSO Board of Trustees' election of Marianne B. for a three year position as the Northeast Regional Trustee began April 2019. Our former NERT, Joan S, is

still involved as a Trustee at Large. The 2020 NERD [North East Regional Delegates March meeting was cancelled and the 2021 NERD is scheduled for March 12-14, 2021 at the HNA Palisades Premier Conference Center in Palisades, NY.

NY North Election Assembly 2020

It's coming! The next Fall Assembly is the NY North Area's election assembly. It is scheduled to be hosted by District 18 on Sept 25 – 27, 2020. Are you ready for service on the Area level? Don't know? Check the NYN web site <http://www.nynafg.com>, look on the Area Information & Forms menu for the WSO & NYN Forms for the AI-Anon Service Resume.

http://www.nynafg.com/pdf/NYN_Resume.pdf Fill it out. You may be surprised.

To see what position you are eligible for go under the NYN Policies and Guidelines Menu and find NYN Area Officer/Coordinator Service Positions -

<http://www.nynafg.com/pdf/jobDesc.pdf> Updated 04/2020.

What job is speaking to you? Look at who is holding that position now and ask them any questions you have.

I cannot fully relate the joy, the knowledge the relationships that are there for you.

Thank you for letting me serve NY North.

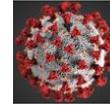
Peace,

Molly C.

Delegate Panel 58

WSO CRITICAL FINANCE UPDATE

LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP MAY 14, 2020



STATUS: APRIL 30, 2020

Literature Sales
Down 75%

Contributions
Down 34%

Projected Operations Deficit:
\$1,600,000

IMMEDIATE FIRST STEPS

Reserve Funds Transferred To
General Funds
\$250,000

Elimination Of Staff Merit & Cost
Of Living Increases For 2020

Elimination Of Travel Staff
Through End Of Year

Board, Executive & Finance
Committee Through End Of
August

STATUS: MAY 1, 2020

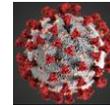
STAFF FURLOUGH

LAYOFFS

PLEASE NOTE:
All Staff who were impacted
are eligible for expanded
unemployment coverage due
to COVID-19

WSO CRITICAL FINANCE UPDATE

LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP MAY 14, 2020



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE STATUS TODAY

BUSINESS AS USUAL

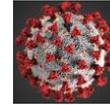
WSO Continues:

- Processing Literature Orders Through Customer Service & Shipping Products Ordered
- Fielding Calls For Public Outreach & Electronic Meeting Information
- Keeping Our Presence Known On Social Media & Other Services

WSO CRITICAL FINANCE UPDATE

LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP MAY 14, 2020

What Can We Do To Help?
Seventh Tradition Donation Thoughts:



- Do your groups, Districts, or Areas have money that was planned to cover Group Representative, District Representative, or Area officer travel which could now be donated because the District or Area meetings were held virtually?
- Is your group making announcements at your meetings to let members know they can go online and donate directly to WSO?
- How is your group handling the May Appeal Letter during this time of meetings happening virtually? Will it even be read?
- How can we keep the Seventh Tradition money flowing through the links of service from the groups to Districts to Areas to the WSO?

The WSO would appreciate any contributions You and Your Group, District, or Area can provide to help us continue to serve the Families & Friends still suffering in these uncertain times.

[gmail.com](mailto:)