

## Delegate's Report January 4, 2019

### WSO

The WSO has sent us information on the 2018 Membership Survey and I hope many of you have shared the information with your members. The 2018 Membership Survey is posted on the WSO website, [al-anon.org/surveyresults](http://al-anon.org/surveyresults) and was sent to you through **"The Loop."**

I will share some of the information with you. Responses were from a record-breaking 13,395 Al-Anon members. World Service is grateful to the Al-Anon members who took the time to complete the twelfth membership survey.

As the results are reviewed, consider the following:

- The survey was a snapshot/environmental scan of its participants for a specific period of time (January 10, 2018 to February 27, 2018).
- The purpose was to provide professionals with evidence-based demographics and data about Al-Anon members.
- Members who participated were predominantly English speaking.
- The average age of female Survey participants was 61; women accounted for 85% of all Survey respondents.
- The report is only available in English because its results are primarily relevant to professionals serving English-speaking clients.
- The 2018 Survey study is designed to present a big picture of the Al-Anon fellowship.

The following are examples of new information:

- 76% of the members with 0 to 1 years of continuous Al-Anon attendance report improvement in their mental health.
- 56% of the Survey participants were 25-48 years old when they first attended Al-Anon
- Approximately 7 in 10 members have been affected by alcoholism that spans 2 or more generations.
- More than 1 in 4 members first heard about Al-Anon from a professional
- 78% of the Survey participants have sought professional counseling or therapy

In December, 2018, Sue Perez, Associate Director-Group Services sent out an announcement letting you know that they revised Guidelines-How to Start and Al-Anon Group (G-12). This is available on the [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org) website under the "Members" tab. Please share this with your members and in your groups and replace your current copies in your manuals.

In September, WSO posted material designed to support Areas in establishing fair and balance "Do Not Refer" and "Re-Refer" policies founded on the spiritual principles contained in Al-Anon's three Legacies, as described by the 2012 Policy Committee Thought Force.

Recently, WSO Staff reviewed the policy materials submitted by three Areas. The Staff reflected on the principles of what is fair and balanced; we realized the language “Do Not Refer” discouraged a holistic, spiritual approach to finding solutions to challenges with groups. Staff recommended to the Executive Committee replacement of the nomenclature of “Do Not Refer” and “Re-Refer” policies with “Meeting List Publishing” policy and the recommendation was approved.

Staff has renamed the support material: “Area Meeting List Publishing Policy Development Resources.”

An Area is not required to create a Meeting List Publishing policy. Meeting List Publishing policies must clarify both how Areas will work with groups prior to removing them from meeting lists and throughout the process as they support them to be re-published.

As promised by World Service, they drafted a Safety in Al-Anon Meetings document to aid groups in discussing and creating workable solutions to safety issues. The purpose of this document is to help groups maintain Tradition One, with the understanding that our groups are not impervious to the same difficulties that affect the world around us, by discussing in advance how to address situations should they arise.

Let’s Talk about Safety in Al-Anon Meetings! I have made copies for each District and all Coordinators. This document only applies to Al-Anon meetings, groups and members: For Alateen safety, please refer to your Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements.

The World Service Conference is coming up in April, 2019. Conference members can submit Chosen Agenda Item topics for discussion. The purpose of the Chosen Agenda Item is to give the Conference members and opportunity to select topics and issues of concern that affect Al-Anon groups and members worldwide. Do you have any topics of concern you would like me to present to the Conference for discussion? Please consider whether the topic merits an in-depth discussion that could benefit Al-Anon groups and members worldwide; and whether the topic is related in some way to the Conference theme:

Action is Attraction—There is No Growth in the Comfort Zone

Please submit your topics within next two weeks to me and provide an explanation of why you think this is important.

## **AREA**

Welcome back to our Area World Service Committee I hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season with family and friends.

Tonight we welcome a resume for the Public Outreach Coordinator position.

This month will be the Serenity Breakfast on January 20, 2019. I look forward to attending this wonderful event. I hope to see you at the Bella Vista at Hawks Landing Country Club in Southington, CT.

## **HAPPENINGS**

March 8 through March 10, 2019, I will be attending the Northeast Regional Delegates Conference in New York. Better known as NERD!

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual CT AFG Convention, "From Survival to Serenity" will be held March 29 through March 31, 2019 at the Red Lion Inn, 100 Berlin Tpke., Cromwell, CT 06416.

Love Gift time again! I will be attending the World Service Conference in Virginia Beach on April 12 through April 18, 2019.

Love in Service,

Gail L.  
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