

III.

CORRECTIONS

AGENDA

Conference Committee on Corrections

Monday, May 20, 2019 – 9 a.m. - Noon

Room 401

Chairperson: Don S.

Secretary: Julio E.

Conference Committee Members

Panel 68

Anthony F.
Teresa J.
Becky P.
Don S.
Lisa W.

Panel 69

Brad A.
Ken D.
Jeff G.

- ◆ Discussion and acceptance of trustees' committee report.
- A. Consider request for a review of all corrections-related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive.
- B. Consider request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each service Area in the U.S. and Canada and the status of meetings held therein.
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

Note: 1989 Conference Advisory Action

Each Conference Committee carefully consider their agenda items and strive to make their recommendations for Advisory Actions to the Conference at the policy level. To be more financially responsible, when a Conference Committee recommendation involves a substantial expenditure of money, an estimate of cost and its impact on the budget be part of that recommendation.

2019 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM A: Consider request for a review of all corrections-related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive.

Background notes:

At their January 26, 2019 meeting, the trustees' Committee on Corrections:

“Agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Corrections a request for a review of all corrections-related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive for their consideration.”

Background:

1. Motion from BC Yukon, Area 79.



BC Yukon Area 79

www.bcyukonaa.org
General Service Committee

Motion 6

Motion:

That conference corrections committee undertake a review of all corrections related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive.

History or Current Practices:

Feedback from members in correctional facilities in Area 79 indicates that there is a need to review and consider more appropriate language to describe A.A. members in these facilities. The terms inmate and offender are primarily used by the judicial system and are not used by members in correctional facilities nor are they used by volunteers attending A.A. meetings in these facilities. Currently the book, A.A. In Prison: Inmate to Inmate and the pamphlets Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic, It Sure Beats Sitting In A Cell, are generally not used by A.A. members in correctional facilities based on titles that are considered offensive language.

If passed:

Possible barriers to our literature would be removed. A.A. members in correctional facilities will have access to additional A.A. literature to aid their recovery. A.A. will be all-inclusive and respectful of members regardless of their situation. Offensive terminology will be removed from A.A. literature intended for use by members in correctional facilities.

If not passed:

Literature intended for members in correctional facilities will continue to go unused. Members in these facilities may remain at risk of exclusion from full participation in A.A. Members leaving correctional facilities and attending outside meetings may lack a sense of belonging.

For further consideration:

Area 51, North Carolina, no longer uses the word inmate in any reports or communications. An informal polling of members in correctional facilities in Area 79, BC Yukon, revealed distaste for the term inmate. These members will not use the book A.A. In Prison: Inmate to Inmate nor the pamphlets Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic and It Sure Beats Sitting in A Cell because of these titles. During meetings of A.A. in correctional facilities they consider themselves A.A. members.

Motion submitted by:

BC/Yukon Area 79 Corrections Committee

Motion Carried at the BC/Yukon Area 79 Voting /Election Assembly October 13, 2018

Submitted by BC/Yukon Area 79 to the Conference Coordinator for consideration at the Trustees Corrections Committee for the 69th General Service Conference.

Jade F-H

Delegate Panel 67 - BC/Yukon Area 79

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the 69th General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

2019 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM B: Consider request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional facilities in each service Area in the United States and Canada and the status of meetings held therein.

Background notes:

At their January 26, 2019 meeting, the trustees' Committee on Corrections:

"Agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Corrections a request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each service area in the United States and Canada and the status of meetings held therein for their consideration."

Background:

1. Proposal from Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire New York, Area 48
2. Estimates for developing a database for corrections committees.

2019 Conference Proposal

We respectfully request that the General Service Conference advise the General Service Office to establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each Service Area in the United States and Canada and the status of meetings held therein.

The data points would originate as a voluntarily submitted upload by Area Corrections Chairs to the Corrections Desk for entry into the database.

There would be no collection of names or contact information.

This database would hold up to nine (9) specific data points.

- 1) What local jails are in the Area?
- 2) Which of those jails host meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous?
- 3) How many of those meetings have member volunteers?
- 4) What State or Provincial Correctional Facilities are in the Area?
- 5) Which of those facilities host meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous?
- 6) How many of those meetings have member volunteers?
- 7) What Federal Correctional Institutions are in the Area?
- 8) Which of those institutions host meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous?
- 9) How many of those meetings have member volunteers?

The purpose of this database is multifold: 1) To allow incoming Area Corrections Chairs ready access to information regarding where focus is needed to carry the message into facilities. 2) Provide valuable data to Areas and Districts conducting inventories. 3) To help GSO be of additional service in efforts to carry the message into Correctional Facilities across the US and Canada.

Background:

Currently, it often takes six months or more for a new Corrections Chair to collect needed information. This database would result in a more seamless transition, allowing new Corrections Chairs to quickly become effective in carrying the message to facilities where the service is needed.

GSO tracks incoming contributions using a database. It is our understanding this system could be utilized to house service implementation information as well.

This idea was shared individually among attendees at the National Corrections Conference in Portland Me. With many attendees sharing their enthusiasm and support.

Respectfully Submitted

Mike R
Panel 68 Area 48 Corrections Chair
Don S
Panel 68 Area 48 Delegate

Memo

Date: January 31, 2019
To: Conference Committee on Corrections
From: Julio E., secretary, Conference Committee on Corrections
Re: Estimates for developing a database for Corrections Committees

This is an informal estimate provided by a professional programmer and web developer, and is intended to facilitate the discussion of the proposed agenda item.

Estimated costs: 25K-30K – for a solo or small development team or 50-60K for an Agency such as those who are working on the website redesign and Meeting Guide App enhancements. The major differences are as follows:

25-30K	50-60K
• Single person (with experience) or small team • If person leaves project, you might be stuck • Technical Project Management by self	• More people to work on project • More hand-holding • Technical Project Manager from agency.

A typical bid could include three pieces:

- 1) Discovery phase to create a wire frame example (3 months)
- 2) Development of database, receive feedback and make minor changes (6 months)
- 3) Support phase following launch, answer questions (long term support)

2019 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM C: Review Corrections Kit and Workbook.

Background notes:

Kits and Workbooks for Corrections, C.P.C., Public Information, Treatment Facilities, and Accessibilities are reviewed by the corresponding Conference Committee during each General Service Conference.

Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or to the contents of a Kit may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees' Committee and implemented.

Alternatively, the trustees' Committee may choose to forward an idea to the Conference Committee for review. Members of the Conference Committee then have an opportunity to review proposed changes to a Workbook or Kit during the next General Service Conference.

The Corrections Workbook (M45I) is contained in the Kit. The content list of the Corrections Kit is available on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website (www.aa.org) with hyperlinks to most items listed.

Note: Workbooks and Kits are service pieces, and suggested changes to their content do not become recommendations; rather, they are put forth as Additional Committee Considerations.

Background:

1. Corrections Kit Content List (F-68)
2. Corrections Kit (Mailed to Committee members only)

CONTENTS OF CORRECTIONS KIT

The contents of this kit list are also available on your G.S.O. Service Committee Page at
www.aa.org/pages/en_US/corrections-committees

List of Kit Contents (this page) (Rev. 10/18) (F-68)

BOOKS:

Corrections Workbook (M-45I)
A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate (in pocket) (Rev. 07/14) (B-13)

DVD (in pocket):

A.A. In Correctional Facilities (DV-02)
Carrying the Message Behind These Walls (DV-06)
A New Freedom (www.aa.org/pages/en_US/a-new-freedom) (DV-18)

PAMPHLETS (in pocket):

Carrying the Message into Correctional Facilities (F-5)
Carrying the Message Behind These Walls (F-108)
Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic (P-9)
A Message to Corrections Professionals (P-20)
A.A. in Correctional Facilities (P-26)
How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals (P-29)
It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell (P-33)
The Twelve Traditions Illustrated (P-43)
The Twelve Steps Illustrated (P-55)
Many Paths to Spirituality (P-84)
A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues – and those who Sponsor them (P-87)

A.A. GUIDELINES:

Cooperation with Court, DWI and Similar Programs (Rev. 09/17) (MG-5)
Corrections Committees (Rev.09/17) (MG-6)
Relationship Between A.A. and Al-Anon (Rev. 03/18) (MG-8)
A.A. Members Employed in the Alcoholism Field (Rev. 03/17) (MG-10)
Accessibility for All Alcoholics (Rev. 12/16) (MG-16)

SERVICE MATERIAL:

Information on Alcoholics Anonymous (F-2)
About AA Newsletter: The A.A. Program - Spiritual but Never Religious (Fall 2003) (F-13B)
Suggestions for Using *Grapevine* or *La Viña* as Tools in Corrections Service (Rev.11/13) (F-70)
Using the DVD: *A.A. in Correctional Facilities* – to carry the message to professionals (F-71)
Engaging A.A. members in Corrections Work (F-198)

CONTENTS OF CORRECTIONS KIT

PUBLICATIONS:

About AA	(F-13)
Current Box 4-5-9	(F-36)
Sharing From Behind the Walls Newsletter	(F-97)

CATALOGS/ORDER FORMS:

Literature Catalog (includes A.A.W.S. and AA Grapevine material)	(F-10)
Corrections Discount Packages (Rev. 01/12)	(F-52)
Literature Order Forms (Rev. 10/14)	(F-60)

PRERELEASE CONTACT PROGRAM:

Prerelease Contact Information for A.A.s on the Outside (in pocket)	(F-162)
Prerelease Contact Information for A.A.s on the Inside (in pocket)	(F-163)

OTHER:

Central Office/Intergroup Directory (in pocket)	(F-25)
Corrections Correspondence Flyer for the outside A.A. member (in pocket) (Rev. 07/16)	(F-26)
Corrections Correspondence Service Form for the A.A. member in prison (Rev.11/11)	(F-73)
New A.A. Correctional Facilities Group Information Form (Rev.1/09)	(F-79)
A.A. Correctional Facilities Group Information Change Form (Rev. 06/96)	(F-77)

History & Actions: Trustees' Committee on Corrections	(F-75)*
History & Highlights of Actions: General Service Conference Committee on Corrections	(F-89)**

AA GRAPEVINE RESOURCES

AA Grapevine magazine – special inmate issue (in pocket)	(F-41A)
La Viña magazine special issue for members in correctional institutions	(SF-41A)
AA Grapevine Today/La Viña Hoy (one page flyer)	(F-188)***
Audio Post Card	(F-196)***
AA Grapevine Books	(F-301)***
How to Support Our Grapevine & Carry the Message	(F-304)***

**This document may be requested in electronic or paper format from the staff member on the assignment. Available in English only.*

*** This document may be requested in electronic or paper format from the staff member on the assignment. Available in English, French and Spanish.*

****Available through the AA Grapevine website on their resources page at www.aagrapevine.org/resources*