

Area 72 Corrections Quarterly (12/13/25 – Port Angeles)

Host Committee Announcements/Introductions – Larry

- Welcome and thank you for attending.
- Intro around the table.

Motion to approve September Minutes

- Approved

Sponsorship program guest speaker: Karen (California)

Backstory: sobriety March 20, 1987. H&I – independent pink-can funded northern Cali group. H&I and sponsorship continuously throughout sobriety. Obsession, love for alcohol, started 10-years old, alcoholic characteristics as teenager, lost faith, blackouts, “morally ambiguous circumstances.” No control over when to start/stop but also behavior. 20-year career – influence on every decision made. College dropout because didn’t like party scene. Divorce over drinking. Back to school but got in way of drinking. Job based on balance for drinking. Moved to San Francisco because a party town. Son was only constant: one thing that was important in her life was her son. Alcohol can take away even the most basic instincts to care for children. Present day: 3 generations of sober alcoholics.

Final decision: drink the way she likes to drink or to have the basic amenities of life. Moment of clarity that cannot have both – gift of desperation. Meetings, Big Book, get a sponsor. Walk through the steps. Emphasis on We Agnostics – choice to believe in God. Step 4/5 sets us free. Steps 10, 11, 12 daily basis. What is the message of Alcoholics Anonymous? “Spiritual awakening as a result of these steps.” To be of service to others: steps, traditions, concepts.

Sponsorship in Corrections

Regulations on behavior, staff, bureaucratic red tape. CDCR website – looking for loopholes on how to engage with corrections. Go into prison system as a visitor vs. as a service position. As a visitor, fewer regulations and no 26-page clearance form. Entirely separate roster that aren’t program volunteers. Started program in San Quintin. 8 prisons in Northern CA. Rolled out to national model. How can we carry the message only providing meetings and literature? Need to provide sponsorship. Implementation of electronic tools have changed landscape of the program. Inmates can reach out to their sponsor throughout the day – simulates same kind of intimacy as sponsorship on the outside. Written training modules about to be posted on YouTube. Customized forms

available for volunteers to visit in person. 5th step needs to be done in person, but the rest can be done electronically. 210 inmates with sponsors from the outside.

Karen contact info and links to the training module – handi.ivss@gmail.com

<https://1drv.ms/f/c/5d93f7fb358ec9fa/lgD6yY41-eTIIIBdtrEAAAAAAZdLQH0TQwZ0vB64zXrKtXI?e=ahH08c>

Belief that AA has changed the entire world for the better – God’s way of life expressed in so much of what we do. Blessed to be a part of it.

Questions for Karen

- Of the 210 inside, once they’ve been through the steps, are they more willing to sponsor those in custody?
 - o Yes, the sponsorship program does permeate into the facilities. Always sponsored on the inside, anyway, but gets more incestuous with only a couple of guys/girls sponsoring. And if wrong information gets “into the yard,” can be more challenging to inmates.
- What does the sponsorship volunteer program look like?
 - o 5-years sobriety, sponsorship experience with steps/traditions, absolutely cannot break anonymity on the inside. Experienced sponsors required for inmate sponsorship.
- Qualifications for inmates looking to sponsor?
 - o Just an understanding of the steps. Brochures brought to institutions that is filled out and submitted back to the district. Just considered a member of AA and go to a meeting. Providing to people serious about wanting to have a sponsor.
- How many sponsors for the 210 inmates?
 - o 8 facilities (7 male, 1 female) – the brochures are the bottleneck to get sponsorships. About 220 volunteers. 15 available for females, waiting list for males. Orientation presentation for about an hour. More demand for sponsors than supply.
- How well was sponsorship program received by staff?
 - o First presented to Community Resources Manager – listened to whole thing and liked the idea because no work for them. Don’t need to process 26-page application, no time for clearance app, etc. Only ask from admin was if visiting in person, need to fill out visitor application. Cannot disclose volunteer’s last name – staff allowed them to alter the application to cross out the last name on the forms. Usually input as “First Name, Sponsor).
- Presentation to the administration: Module 1 on the presentation.

- Grapevine, Free on the Inside: go into admin with a package and recommendation from the first facility. Institutions that do not allow customized visitor forms so all electronic sponsorship. No paperwork needed to start electronic sponsorship. Get a Google # and just maintain anonymity that way.
- Regard to anonymity, email system in place to sign up for and email inside members. As for as phone numbers, to protect anonymity, outside sponsors do not provide real number – give a Google #?
 - How to get Google number is on the training module.

Area 72 Chair Report – Aimee

- Went to Nashville for National Corrections Conference.
 - Able to meet with speakers for today and January quarterly.
 - Speaker today to discuss sponsorship program (flying in from Cali)
 - Met with others doing creative things for corrections / people on the inside.
 - Shariff speaker
 - Cleared a Nashville AA to get into facilities on site.
 - “Treating the problem, not the person.” Flipped script from the officers themselves.
 - Speaker: alcoholics as problems in society vs. fixing the condition.
 - WA wants to host the National Corrections Conference in future years. Bid committee for 2027. Orlando was pulled, not WA.
 - 2026 in Utah and will re-bid. Third attempt to host.
 - Strong WA showing in Nashville.
- Literature orders put in. Sent to alt-treasurer. Snag on timeline for more literature. Elected to have meeting on Sunday and should have a better timetable. Lit order wanting to put in before end of 2025 for budget reasons (\$2000 left in budget).

Secretary report – Matt

- Send written reports to corsecretary@area72aa.org if need any additions to committee reports.
- Cell: 425.327.7494.

Prerelease Coordinator – David

- 4 prerelease requests – 2 from A92 being released to this area.
 - If anyone in greater Seattle area, will send to SEA Intergroup, Pierce, etc. Otherwise, will send to corrections chair of that district.

- Problem on the forms: not knowing release city or time released, so can be challenging to direct them to the proper corrections district.
- Dale A92 – Securus email address – can help communicate with the inmates. David cannot contact inmates directly.
 - o Suggestion: if a pre-release coordinator is a volunteer, if someone doesn't have an address or release date, have another volunteer to communicate with the inmate being released.
 - o If questions, talk to David after meeting.
- Questions? Pre-release associated with Dept. of Corrections. Should prerelease be in jails, as well? Yes, generally people in jail aren't always in the system long enough to get all the information to them. Cannot give phone # while incarcerated, can give phone # on the schedule – given to officers or a social worker on staff. Can get the volunteer phone # once they're released but not while inside.
 - o System for prisons in place but not as available for county. Can use the same forms/process as needed.
 - Use forms with the address on them.
 - o Either volunteer can send them to Seattle, Snoco, Puget Sound, etc. Or can give their information to David, and he can coordinate with the division.
 - o Can we devise a form that is more applicable to County inmates?
 - Can district office get a list of anyone being released to connect them with AA?
 - Pierce County: form called "Short Bridge." Inmates can fill out a form and then mail them in. District can then arrange to have someone pick them up. Higher turnover in county. For mailing address, put district PO Box and get in contact there. Follow rules for individual facilities.
 - Can use the forms in jail and edit them. If the inmate fills out the form, take a picture, and then send it to the pre-release coordinator.
 - If inmate released locally, handle through usual process. If released outside of area, send to David.
- If people are passionate about having more forms for county, can present to Area 72 and can submit a motion for GSO.
- Leah will send Matt a copy of the Short Bridge form and will be attached with the minutes.

Area 72 Prerelease Written Report:

Accomplishments from the past quarter: (Experiences from your District or committee you are proud of or that were particular inspirational to you)

- Received four (4) Prerelease requests this quarter, two were from Area 92.
- Forwarded the requests to the releasing district's Corrections Chair or GSIG (Dan P).

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with. (Including any solutions, you have found or are considering and whether you would like to hear the solutions others have found to similar problems.)

- Many requests have no release date or release city/address. For requests from Area 92, Dale B (Area 92 Corrections Chair), has been contacting the inside members to get their release date and/or addresses. For GSIG, Dan P said he would get the addresses. Since I cannot contact/write the person directly (DOC rules since I am a DOC volunteer), I have been working with someone who attends a meeting at the facility where the person resides or the corrections chair in the release city and have them contact the prerelease individual.
- I have been thinking that having an AA Corrections person from Area 72 that is not an approved DOC volunteer, contact the inside members with incomplete information. If you're interested, see me after the meeting.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter.

- Get Robert's volunteer spreadsheet (carry over from last quarter)
- Continue to process Prerelease requests and promote the Prerelease Program both Inside and Outside
- Find a person to help contact people releasing to Area 72

A72 Corrections Literature Coordinator still open

- Take book orders and then forward onto alt-treasurer for processing. Sometimes travel is necessary, but A72 will cover it.
- If anyone interested in the position, let Aimee know.

District Corrections Reports

D22/D55 – Clallam Bay, Clearwater. Staff going into each facility once/week. Recently, past year restricted residents at Clallam Bay twice/month. Individuals in the hole. Actively involved with pre-release. Go into the jail every week, women alternate weeks – started up beginning of the year with 2 volunteers and many more now. Pet project: juvenile hall. Ceased having meetings for staffing issues. Reached out and informed ready to go as soon as the hall is ready. Last contact, had to discontinue other services, but do not want to drop AA. Last 4 weeks, meetings back in juvenile hall. Port Angeles young person's meeting – would like to take that into the juvenile detention center. If can reach at a young age, maybe won't see them in prison.

D24 South Snohomish County – Lynnwood City Jail – met in April, expressed interest in bringing in meetings, but still waiting to get in. Have a room for meetings but short-staffed. Brought in literature, pre-release forms (Seattle Intergroup). Lynnwood jail short stay.

Pierce County Intergroup 9, 29, 44, 45 – more facilities opening. However, not a lot of pink can fund. Able to support with literature, even if no meetings. Short on liaisons to support facilities willing to have meetings. Facilities reaching out saying they're ready but cannot fill the rooms. Looking to fill liaison positions. Working with ICE detention center – willing to accept Spanish literature Big Book and 12x12. About 200 books. Got 50 PLBB into WCCW Purdy. Should have feedback on the PLBB next quarterly. Puyallup Tribal women's jail – call-in to see if anyone wants a meeting. Wed night 7PM.

D27 – (written report) District 27 corrections meet once a month on the first Saturday of each month. Dist 27 sub-group women and men take meetings into Pacific County Jail each Tuesday of the month. Groups in Cowlitz County District 27 women and men take meetings into Cowlitz County Jail each Thursday of the month. Book Study and General Discussion are topics. Information is provided in the form of pamphlets and schedules. Bridge The Gap pamphlets are available and explained to inmates. Our Primary Purpose is discussed. Why we are here.

Enumclaw D54 – AA not allowed in Enumclaw for about 15 years. Last 2 years, been taking in literature. Have a meeting scheduled for next Friday. Trying to stay patient. Goal is to set up a regular, weekly, monthly meeting at the jail. Half dozen people ready that go into Kent RJC but very little information from jail liaison on schedule.

D43 – Kitsap County Jail – working on getting meetings reestablished but little luck. Did invite CPC and PI chair to collaborate. Before COVID were able to get in without issues but cannot get back in. Contact at the jail retired, so have had to investigate to find out who to contact. Literature donations to the jail but need to coordinate with contact to receive it. Expect someone to replace them in 2026. Treatment and corrections conversion to just corrections: meet every other month (even months). Meet at 6:30pm second Tuesday. Consistent committee attendance.

(Written report)

Accomplishments: Worked with CPC and PI to improve AA outreach, identify literature, and share updated District 43 meeting schedules with correctional facilities.

Challenges: Jail contact retired, causing communication gaps. No current contact to accept literature or approve flyers. Volunteer consistency remains an issue.

Goals: Start Corrections meetings at Juvi, establish a new jail contact, deliver donated literature, and clarify facility coverage inside and outside District 43.

D4 - Skagit County Community Justice Center and Skagit County Jail. Active juvenile detention group – 6-person rotation every Wednesday. Jail: can't even take in literature – "no place to store it." Manpower issue. No CPC chair in D4 to assist. Contacted Lewis district chair to see if she can help but no response yet. Core of 10 volunteers to TRU in Monroe and juvenile center.

D46 – Island County jail – all going well. Been going in for about 5 months or so. Men's and women's coordinators – about 8-9 female volunteers. Little short on the men's side. Juvenile center there and exploring if a need for AA. Back down to Twin Rivers recently. Camano Island 12 Promises Group would like to volunteer.

(Written report) Dist. 46 members are continuing to carry the message into ICJ twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Women at 6pm and men at 7pm. The women's side is well supported by outside volunteers; however, the men's side could use a few more volunteers. I have again started to attend meetings at the Twin Rivers Unit at the Monroe correctional facility. I am currently looking for service opportunities at the Island County Juvenile detention facility. I am hoping to kill two birds with one stone by supplying an in-house AA meeting at the juvenile facility and giving a service opportunity to our younger AA members. More will be revealed.

D2 Stanwood – No correctional facilities in the area. Go into MSU in Monroe and have reached out to Marysville Jail – district due south of Rod, left a few messages. One of the officers said would be accommodating to go into the civic center. (In response to Kirkland meeting cancellations) Funding is a challenge at correctional facilities – recently, MSU had to donate \$350ish to search inmates. Leah: for Purdy, volunteers have had to pay for events/workshops in the facilities.

Cecil question: provide a workbook to inmates. Once the meeting is over, the inmates move back to their pods. A lot of interest from the inside at Clallam Bay – will be there for 10+ years that want to get a sponsor to talk to them on the inside. Volunteers not allowed to sponsor from the outside, so a workbook would be handy. No approve literature for them to get on their tablets or anything. Sponsorship, workbook, and pre-release resources help needed. Never know when inmates are going to be released. Clallam Bay 3 meetings/week. Inmates in the hole – some inmates just want to get out of their cells and others are genuinely interested. PLBB been getting picked up by the inmates often. Feedback on the PLBB? Generally positive.

D3 - Orientation coming up first of the year – one volunteer used to be an inmate there. Has contact for Snohomish County Jail. Willing to help Rod with getting live in Marysville.

D19 – Snohomish County Jail not letting outside people in for any of their programs. Possibly first of the year will have some news. Nov 17th was last day they were allowed in. 2-3 Wednesdays/month.

Greater Seattle Intergroup – Pink can funds doing well. Funds used to get Daily Reflections and Big Books for Federal Detention Center. Restarting meetings at federal women's work release. Pioneer Fellowship House starting meetings again – haven't had since before COVID. New coordinator for RJC. High and Dry monthly newsletters using stories from people in the program who have served time. Priorities for next quarter to finish handbook, more volunteers into facilities – one issue communications between facilities and AA members.

D22 – former committee member from corrections committee. Making progress getting message into the meetings and facilities.

D11 – Continually attending meetings at Whatcom County Jail. Has information for anyone that wants to get in. 1-year sobriety, referral, sobriety testimonial. Any feedback on if a male coordinator for the women's facility is OK? Not a problem. Needs literature.

D38 – attendance increased – Kirkland Jail, 5-9 people, previously 0-3. Been taking in Big Books and 12x12. Gave the facility AA pamphlets, schedules, AA literature. Problems: 25%-30% of meetings canceled, due to limited jail staff. Call at noon to confirm if they have staff for the meeting or not. Jail trying to be accommodating, but if they don't have extra officers, can't host. Working to keep literature in stock – need a lit order.

(Written report)

Accomplishments: In the past quarter our attendance has increased, we now have 5-9 ppl and we are seeing more women attend. We have been going through literature more rapidly than before, we want to make sure anyone that wants a BB, 12&12, Daily Reflections available when they release. Since there is such a high turnover it is difficult to keep the literature stocked. We have also been stocking Spanish literature. I have been working with the Navigator to stock AA pamphlets, schedules and literature in the release lobby. This AA material is available to the releasing individuals as they leave. The Navigator is also helping distribute AA book/literature to people that request it.

Challenges: Every now and then the jail is short on staff and if there are more than two people signed up they cancel the meeting. If there are just one or two, we can hold the meeting in the visitation room. This room has thick glass between the inside and outside

members, and audio is over a built-in mic & speaker, but it is better than not having a meeting. We probably miss between 25-33% of our meetings due to this issue.

Goals: Continue working with and developing a better repour w/ the new jail Navigator. Keep literature in stock. And maybe add one or two more volunteers.

D54 – (written report)

Accomplishments: We have a meeting scheduled at the Enumclaw Jail for the 19 th of this month. Of course, this depends on whether there is someone that wants a meeting and the holding cell is available. Still, far closer than before.

Challenges: My main challenge is to remain patient and believe meetings will happen at Kent RJC. After word from the Jail Liaison a month or so ago, it's been crickets since.

New business – Aimee

- NEW MONTHLY ONLINE MEETING TIME - monthly second Saturday corrections meeting online. Any interest in doing a corrections workbook study?
 - o Starting January 2026 – same time will be going through the corrections workbook.
- Discussion regarding host committees for 2026.