

Area 72 Corrections September Quarterly Minutes (9/20/25)

Introduction and Host Committee Announcements (Leah)

Guest Speaker (Sooz – Area 72 CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair)

Sooz: cpc@area72aa.org

Sobriety February 2014. First service position treatment chair. Nominated to CPC (favorite). Accessibilities, district treasurer, alt-DCM, DCM, and now Area 72 CPC. Public Information vs. CPC – inform the public vs. cooperate with professionals. PI outreach since beginning of AA. 1970 Public Information broke off into “public” and “professional.” Help educate institutions with knowledge of AA and to enable them with the information they need for addicts/alcoholics. CPC gets out and provides that information: letters and panels. What does AA do and does not do? IE: when talking to a judge, AA signs slips but does not take roll. When visiting a hospital, how to make ourselves more known? How to help probation officers understand where they’re sending people to?

CPC helps get into a corrections facility we aren’t visiting yet. How to get AA meetings into a prison or literature into a facility? Helping support AA get into institutions and increase access. Bring everyone together to help share information. Post-COVID, much of the CPC service died down – starting from scratch with knowledge. CPC in action road show. At the assembly, call for workshops. Overwhelming for newbies into CPC: dealing with medical communities, retirement homes, legal. Pick one passion project. When dealing with professional community, we are not anonymous – is that something members are comfortable with? (Not a break in traditions). Now talk to the people who shamed us; lot of practicing that needed to be done. Role play templates: first contact with law enforcement, defense attorney, construction union leader.

Half of CPC: finding out who “the in” is to speak to regarding introducing to AA. Emergency services reaching out to Central Office on how to interact and understand alcoholics and repeat offenders. Our job is to stay sober and give back what we have. Show up for the quarterlies. Take that information back to district meetings. Best speakers are from CPC. Passion projects: construction trades project. 30K onboarding docs each year – kit to submit. First responders have no training for dealing with addicts/alcoholics: fire houses, clergy, behavioral health – packets to ride around with the trucks. Landing page for Area 72 website: CPC materials to post on website. Since 1950s, quarterly newsletter for professionals. Upcoming quarterly guest speaker corrections/CPC crossover: how do corrections and CPC mix?

Area 72 Chair Report – Aimee

- Kiosks: vending machines that family members can put money into prisoner's accounts. More autonomy. Can AA put money in there for video calls (sponsorship)? AA doesn't have an opinion on this. Up to the individual. Each prison and district have own guidelines – some do not allow outside sponsorship. Make sure within facility and district rules; if do not abide by facility's rules, it can result in a lifetime ban from the prison. Currently investigating whether WA state has blanket rules on whether AA can contact prisoners, be on their visitor list, send them money. Each institution is different: regional, city, county. Different rules for DOC regarding felons. Pre-release volunteers on the outside are not approved to go inside the facilities; those on inside cannot be on pre-release.
- Tablet Literature Lists: updated Grapevine and AAWS sent via email.

Secretary Report – Matt

- Email any reports or additions to corsecretary@area72aa.org.

Pre-Release Coordinator Report – David

- Forms are sent into this Tacoma office. Then forwarded onto the corrections chair to find pre-release volunteer. Variables regarding release addresses and assigning correct volunteer. Some confusion about multiple volunteer lists. IE: Seattle Intergroup vs. Eastside Intergroup. How to get off the pre-release list? Cannot be in pre-release and a volunteer at a prison. For now, simply just tell the coordinator that you are not available to be in pre-release.
- Is it dangerous to meet someone after they get out of prison? When communicating with inside member, do not use personal address for letter correspondence – use district office. Use email address (which is easier for those on inside, anyway). Job as a volunteer is to take them to 3 meetings, introduce them to AA community, and get them on their feet. Not to help them find a job or put their lives together.
- Are rosters for pre-release volunteers sent to David? Local doesn't always get communicated to Area 72. There is a list from last rotation, but those are just from volunteers that sent in the form. Local volunteers are not necessarily shared with Area 72. Researching consolidation of all volunteer lists – current project. Volunteers assigned at local level.
- Bridge the Gap and Pre-Release separate programs. Bridge the gap is treatment.
- How to handle literature and bringing in schedules? Bring in a schedule to be put in with their personal property? When bringing in schedules and addresses, do not put personal phone numbers or personal information, specifically into the prison. On prisoner release when meeting on the inside, send them to a meeting at said address on the schedule. “Meet us at a meeting” and then the phone number list is

passed around at the meeting. When in doubt, coordinate with the facility on how they prefer any literature or schedules given to prisoners – do not put on personal information. Risk associated with knowing last names: personal information is available online – tax returns, address, divorce, etc.

- Schedules can be given to a newly released inmate to be provided with their personal property. Speak with the one in charge and ask their rules. Can an AA volunteer give them a schedule to be given at release with a contact list of volunteers? Not the same as handing out a schedule to all inmates with personal information. Specifically provided on release of inmate.

Lit Coordinator (Sandy) Outgoing

- Alt-treasurer is responsible for sending the order for literature.
 - o 5 things: your full name, email, district, institution lit is going to, and where do you want it shipped? Also, need the name of the facility literature is being delivered to.
- Orders place 3rd Quarter
 - o D11 – 12 Plain Language Big Books
 - o D28 – 10 PLBB
 - o D55 – 40 Daily Reflections
- Inventory on hand
 - o B-16: AA Big Books (Large Print) = 10
 - o B-18: As Bill Sees It = 30
 - o B-6: Came to Believe = 40
 - o B-7: Living Sober = 33
 - o Spanish Large Print Big Books = 20
 - o F-162: Outside Prerelease Contact Information Pamphlets = 1180
- Sandy stepping down from her current position. Too many transportation requirements. “No one will step up to a position if one is filled.” Last quarterly.
- Books here today are for donation.

Literature Coordinator Open Position

- Big travel commitment but Area 72 reimburses all expenses.
 - o Can ship books via mail or meet at quarterlies
- All books shipped through General Service Office (GSO)
 - o Coordinating direct shipping is most efficient
- Coordinate with Area alt-treasurer
 - o Place order with alt-treasurer and in charge of disbursement
 - o Range from the peninsula, Bellingham, greater city

- Aimee can help with north
- 15-month rotation, area email, no free toaster
- Bring books to quarterlies
- Manage on-hand inventory and on the go purchasing

Next Quarterly Location

- District 22 Port Angeles!
- **December 13th, 2025 10AM-2PM**
- Aimee to send out a Save the Date flyer via email.

March 21st Quarterly

- Renton District 18 – might need to be 12PM.
- Hosted by Seattle Intergroup.

District Corrections' Committee Reports

D3: Monroe Correctional, several meetings happening there - Twin Rivers Unit and General Pop Unit. Story of man murdered wife in a blackout, found the Big Book, "I had to lose everything to find everything." Meetings are going well.

D4: Going down to Twin Rivers first Thursday and 4th Saturday every month. No CPC in group to help get into the jails; going to work with CPC chair from D46 to work on access to Skagit Regional Justice Center (Skagit). Been taking meetings into the juvenile detention facility once/week; 8 people are on rotation once/week. We went international, lots of good meetings.

D11: 3 corrections facilities. Downtown jail work center, Jail, juvenile detention center. Good working relationship with sheriff's dept. Out of books and materials – given a new shipment of literature. Question about a QR code for juvenile detention center: how do we better connect them with us? How to connect juveniles with other juveniles? Young people's meetings wanted to create phone numbers for them without giving out personal information. Generic phone that can be taken by a member. Feedback from the juvenile center asked for younger people, rather than the older "generic" members from CO. Specific request looking for young people in AA to personally connect them with a peer. Parameters for minors? 12-step call would have 2 people. When dealing with a 17-year-old minor, you may have to have a parent involved. Leah: Google phone number can be put onto 5 different phones and text chat. Tom: for juveniles, tell minors to arrive with a parent to their first meeting. David: spoke with an attorney – adults are not allowed to pick up minors. Keith: Lot of liability involved with picking up minors. Use common sense.

Minimal risk in taking a phone call, but liability could be too great for picking up minors. Get a parent involved. District 11 QR code idea was submitted to GSO archives!

D14: There are no facilities in District 14. Our district supports the Greater Seattle Intergroup facilities and has members that take meetings into those facilities. There are 2 meetings that now have Pink Cans, and I will continue spreading the word and try to attend 2-3 new meetings a month during this last quarter of the year.

Seattle Intergroup: Step workshop presented by Leah. How to bring step work into the corrections meetings without being a sponsor. Intergroup committee meeting picked up 6 volunteers. Working with 2 pre-release centers reopening for meetings. RJC in Kent approved to bring meetings back in – first time since COVID. Women's meetings after that. Logjam at King County Jail very restricted women's meetings since COVID. 2026 working with some of the men to reopen meetings there. Connected to PI/CPC committee – going to WA State Drug Court conference. Juvenile boys' meetings have hard time designing a meeting format that is desirable for the boys. AA people responsible trying all sorts of different timing, location – currently doing meeting once/month. Not a lot of young people looking to participate from the outside – could be a factor. Federal Detention Center new initiative: reached out with 12-step and religious affiliations to activate new programming for people in custody not related to what we're doing. Sounds like coming from new guy at the top. Anyone hear about new initiatives from people in custody? Sandy: Will (person) might be the best liaison for that – he is the contact for detention center for Tacoma. No meetings in that facility, but Will might know something. Monthly meetings read different format of "How it Works" at meetings; asked at international convention if anyone knew of it, and no one knew? Going to investigate where this template came from.

D18: 2 facilities – Tukwila and Renton, RJC and Kent Jail. 2 meetings men and women. RJC new meeting starting soon.

D22: Port Angeles serves 4 facilities: Juvenile and family, Port Angeles City Jail, Olympic Corrections Center and Column Bay Corrections Center. Staffing issue at juvenile center so meetings paused. City Jail just met with women's contact. More volunteers than spots available. Men's meetings are also going well. Working on pre-release project for the city jail. OCC meetings every week. 20-22 residents attending. Some inmates are not aware of pre-release programs. Column Bay Corrections Center is trying to make programs more available to inmates. Digital pre-release form to make available to inmates that don't normally attend meetings. New meeting every week there with general population. Another new meeting is 2 Mondays of the month at Column Bay high risk prisoners (restrictive housing unit – people in The Hole). Prison orientation today for volunteers looking to take the message behind the walls. Humbled, excited to host the December

quarterly. Keith M: new meeting for high-risk prisoners brought in in shackles. Overwhelming sensation of “right place, right time.”

D27: Longview Area’s Men’s Kowitz County, Women’s jail meetings changed Thursday at 7. 2 new applications submitted for approval. Waiting for contact from Kowitz County to support services. Peninsula Group taking South Bend County Jail – good attendance. Second Saturday of the month at 12pm.

Written report: Longview area Men are taking meetings to Cowlitz County Jail each Thursday of the month at 7pm. Women's meetings have a change in Thursday's 7pm meeting schedule. Women's Shelter have the 2nd and 4th Thursdays for Domestic Violence information sharing. The 1st and 3rd Thursdays are available for women at Cowlitz County Jail at 7pm. Peninsula Group taking meetings to South Bend County Jail each Tuesday of the month. There are an extra 8 soft covered Big Books available for Corrections/Treatment Committee's. Literature rack for Cowlitz County Jail is now set up and attended to. We have 2 new applications from women ready for the orientation for jail access in Cowlitz County Jail.

D28: Serving Chehalis Tribal. Lewis County is not budging, understaffed and unless AA can pay a guard to sit there with them, not going to get in. Juvenile Prison – AA member has been in contact with them; per last 20 years of corrections chairs, very difficult to get through. Heard a volunteer go in and was brutally assaulted (non-AA). Chehalis Tribal is very well attended. Coffee approved! Budget approved by district. Women’s meeting liaison has full roster of volunteers, great attendance, only good reports from jail and attendees. “Blew director’s mind.” Reaching out to other meetings in the district to keep pink can in circulation. Picking up the pieces post-COVID. Volunteers can give books and schedules to the inmates as they’re released. Implementing “home wave” tablet system; if we have digital literature that is compatible with their tablet system, is that available? Not to be implemented for 2-3 months but looking for insight. Lastly, shared the success story of an inmate working the program, sponsor, steps. Is it possible to find Home Wave website?

Pierce County Standing Committee: Bringing meetings in Puyallup Tribal, Raymond Hall Juvi, WCCW Purdy, supporting ICE Detention Pierce County with literature, new liaisons for McNeil Island and forensic side of western state. Area of Western State but no leads. Supporting Pierce County Jail with literature. Getting meetings into Puyallup Tribal huge accomplishment, male and female liaisons. Step workshop (first one) WCCW Purdy is a prison and cannot sponsor. We were able to simulate a 12-step process by helping with 1-5, then bring in someone from the outside to listen, and then alternate through the steps. Presentation at Seattle Intergroup. If anyone is trying to figure out how to simulate 12-step

program, reach out to Leah. Speaker meeting once/month at WCCW – able to book 3 circuit speakers. Problems: some facilities are still not open. Some liaisons not able to make progress – connect with CPC? Controversial conversation of PLBB at committee level: Leah insisted on 50 PLBB with great feedback in correctional system and others did not agree it was a good piece of literature. One person left committee because of conflict. Goal to get some AA meetings into McNeil Island and Forensics Unit of Western State. Providing Spanish/English to ICE Detention Center, also investigating other language versions. JB: Trying to get younger people into Raymond Hall.

D37: Clarke County – 2 county facilities, jail and juvenile. Not yet in the jails: two reasons – first shift of moving from sheriff control to county council. Clarke County council doesn't seem to care about Alcoholics Anonymous and sheriff not willing to help. Space and staffing are also an issue. No in person visits at the jail, only done through kiosk. One person allowed in to do treatment assessments. Developed one page handout for which AA literature is available. Corrections prerelease contact form is available. Staff are overworked. Releasing inmates at 1AM, no knowledge of AA, cannot get in. If able to get a handout through the treatment people, can something in front of AA. 2027 new facility opening, maybe AA allowed in then. Work center also could be reopening, could be able to send AA there.

D38: Kirkland Jail supports the AA meetings. Do their best to accommodate us. Past quarter 4 new volunteers approved. Generally, 2-3 people at a meeting, some get canceled because not enough jail staff. Kirkland Jail hired a “jail navigator”; part of their job is to look at housing and treatment options for incarcerated individuals before they are released. We provide literature for them, but Kirkland staff don't sticker them, so inmates can take the books with them when they leave. Spanish literature now being provided. Can request books/pamphlets when they leave – navigator and AA have access to them. Every 4-5 weeks a meeting is canceled. If 2 people or less, can put us in visitation room.

D43: Port Orchard and Gig Harbor, Peninsula. Separated from treatment committee – was previously combined. Discussing meeting schedule. Next guest speaker will be district CPC. Talk about working out of the corrections workbook workshop. Since brand new committee, we are still trying to figure things out. Facilities list: Kitsap County Jail, Kitsap County Juvenile Hall, coordinate with WA Corrections Center, WCCW. Provide literature for parole office. Set up to take meetings every Wed into Kitsap Jail (need to confirm for construction and staffing). Challenge to get literature outside of the normal books. Need large print Big Book for some inmates.

D46: Island County Jail – they let us back in right after 1st of the year. One of the blessings is the lieutenant want us there. AA and/or CA share time. 8-9 volunteers. Coordinators for

both men and women. Need to look at the juvenile center. Going to TRU – third Thursday of the month. Will need to research which literature is in there. Bothered by schedules – need to talk to the coordinators and volunteers to be careful about them. Lieutenant asked for a 5-minute presentation on treatment.

Written report: I will not be attending the monthly district meeting as I will be in Tacoma for the area correction quarterly. All is going well at Island Co Jail. Our volunteer list increased with 8-9 volunteers for both the men's and women's groups. Two volunteers have stepped up to be coordinators for the men's and women's groups. The coordinators have both been very active in scheduling, organizing our visits, and acting as the liaison between us and the county representatives. Basically, they ensure that all is running smoothly. A big thank you to the two of them! Literature has been ordered and delivered to the jail by the list I can't seem to locate. Sorry I will submit the order list next month.

D54: Meetings at Enumclaw Jail are at about 95% there. The volunteers are lined up and the procedure to be approved for the meetings is in place. An actual meeting has not happened yet but should within the next week or so. My main challenge is to remain patient and believe meetings will happen at Enumclaw Jail and Kent RJC. My main goal remains to be able to take meetings into Kent RJC and the Enumclaw Jail within the next quarter.