

AA Corrections Quarterly September 19, 2026

June minutes approved

Area 72 Chair Report

- Going through website
 - o Making sure things up to date, quarterly minutes, filling in blank links, making forms with all Western WA facilities.
- National Corrections Conference Bid Committee
 - o Pins and t-shirts made
 - o Tours of Monroe and Purdy
 - First time women's facility part of NCC
 - First time on the Pacific Coast

Literature Coordinator

- Just over \$200 left in account
- Asked for \$5000 from Finance Steering Committee
 - o For now, putting in requests and hoping they get filled
 - o Recommendation to FSC for increase to \$12000 instead of \$8000 in next year's budget for corrections lit.
 - Book price increase \$3
- If district needs books, in year's past, Greater Seattle Intergroup has extra money as part of their Pink Can fund.
 - o Anita: certainly, a conversation, just call Seattle – if they can help, they will

Prerelease report

- Issues: when someone is released into a district, info given to district corrections chair, and sometimes the district rep doesn't have consistent access or availability via their emails.
 - o Aimee: give info to DCM as backup.
- Letters sent via snail mail for incarcerated individual to get letter and send back. Takes a week
- Cirrus email account for incarcerated members
 - o Challenge: if a volunteer at a DOC facility, cannot contact inside members while incarcerated or even after released
 - o Person handling prerelease must not be approved to go into the facilities

- Staff has more rules than even DOC
- Feedback on Securus email sheet
- Will continue to process prerelease requests
- Frequently, person that is getting out corresponds with AA member.
 - AA member only responsible to take them to up to 6 AA meetings and introduce them to the fellowship.
 - Frequently, AA volunteer connects and/or sponsors
 - Get to a meeting right when they get out
- Heartwarming to see people's commitment to get sober right after release

(Written report)

Accomplishments from the past quarter: Received seven (5 or 6) Prerelease requests this quarter, one was from Area 92, the rest were from and releasing to Area 72. I received some of the requests in creative ways, one email and one text. One was not on a form but the release information was sent in an email.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with: My biggest issue is identifying and contacting the some of the district Corrections Chairs. Some do not use the Area 72 email or their local Intergroup/CSO email and some districts do not have Corrections Chairs. I usually end up reaching out to the DCM for those districts and they give me the name of someone who will handle the prerelease. (Thank you DCMs!) I tried to find a guide/FAQ for how to create a Securus account and to email inside members. I could not find one, so I put something together. Please let me know if you'd like to use or review it. It could use some feedback.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter: Get feedback on my Securus FAQ. Continue to process Prerelease.

Stories: person in corrections that was recently released now owns own business, still sober, in contact with the fellowship. Stafford a fellow with 23 years sober and another with 17 years. Any advocates with DOC where people in corrections cannot contact released, rather than the 6-month timeline before contact? Program was almost shut down at Stafford Creek because an AA was in contact with someone right after release. Any ideas to get DOC to see AA/NA and the relationship with those in corrections? Policy in place to protect volunteers and those incarcerated. If run into one of them out in the world, not an issue; policy in place so that one individual doesn't take advantage of another and to keep a level of boundary between those inside. Maria: some of the women at Purdy eager to be sponsored and want to be able to get through the steps with the people they've gotten to know at the facilities, but Maria must decline, due to

DOC policies. While sponsorship program outside of AA corrections is possible, most that are interested in corrections sobriety are going into the facilities.

Aimee: 4th of July – leading young people’s meetings for BBQ in Everett. Bumped into someone from Twin Rivers. Saw another member from corrections later – evidence of prerelease working.

Leah: can give schedules to those inside, say “these are the meetings I go to,” etc. as a means of staying connected. Don’t give phone number as part of DOC policy but can disclose about the AA community.

Guest speaker: Dan from Denton, NC:

- Learned how to deal with corrections people from manipulating the system being on the inside. Out for 21 years now. Been able to go inside and participate. Community Volunteer Passes are available in NC. Chuck does early AM meetings at the national convention. Dan going to pick up someone who’s been inside for 40 years later this afternoon/evening.
- Dart Program in NC
- Whole different perspective on the program being on the inside.
- Things Dan learned: dealing with facilities – need to learn how to politely nag until the path of least resistance is to give us what we want. Many just assume we’ll go away. If we get frustrated and give up, that’s what they want. Once we get meetings into the facilities, they’ll see the value.
 - o Some max security prisoners become more manageable when working a program.
- Tell prisoners about the rules when taking people out as a guest – we’re not going to run in and tell the camp if anything serious but “rigorous honesty” a foundation of the program. Some of the guys in prison can push rules. “If it isn’t true, I don’t say it. If it isn’t legal, I don’t do it. If it isn’t mine, I don’t touch it.” Changed perspective in life.
- If they don’t respect you, you can’t help them. They will use you and throw you aside. If earn respect, you may have something they want.
 - o When first went in, one of his friends taught him to learn how to stick up for yourself. Survival of the fittest is how it works in tighter security facilities.
- More meetings inside = more meetings outside.
 - o Some prisoners will go to meetings inside, not attend outside, and then they revert to their old ways.
 - More involved – more success.

- “High cost of low living.”
- Typical alcoholic of running the inside/outside cycle – what is the silver bullet?
Only thing we can control is ourselves. Keep showing up.
- What does sponsorship look like in NC?
 - Positives: if good rapport with admin at facilities, they’ll allow AAs to come back in, early, or later to work with someone inside.
 - “Do you want to be my sponsor?” can often mean “Will you be my taxi?”
 - Provide worksheets where they can work on it on their own, and then AAs can discuss the worksheets with prisoners.
 - If you’re on the visitor’s list, you can’t be a part of the Church or AA programs.
 - AA more friendly and NA is more rigid.
 - If a big city, may not be able to find a lot of good AA meetings and mostly NA. Other communities not much NA and only AA.
- Best and worst of taking people out?
 - Best: 70-year old gentlemen – when out on the streets, in jumpsuits – bumped into someone at a restaurant who recognized the outfit and volunteered to pay their meal. Many citizens welcoming and receptive; tears down the stigmatism of “I’m a convict and a loser and everyone is against me.”
 - Another story: took someone to McDonald’s as first time out to show an ordering kiosk. Point of story was to show him that he needs help when gets out. Something as simple as taking someone to McDonald’s is a memory the prisoner will remember for life.
 - Bad: stopped bringing people back to his home group. Home group members can become attached to the newly released and can fall off. Sometimes, released prisoners will relapse or do something bad and can cause distress to his AA group.
 - “Everything I’ve got can fit into the bottom of a shot glass.”
- Service history: involved in all the prison meetings and AA that participate. Treasure of home group. Denton, Winston-Salem, Lexington. Advise AAs going into the facilities. “Not big on meetings about meetings.”
- “Meetings on the inside are different from meetings on the outside.” What does that mean?
 - In WA, mixed meetings and try to run the meetings inside the same as in the community.

- Inside members will secretary the meeting and do service work.
- NC every camp is different. Superintendent in charge sets processes. If any women in the prison, must have more staff, and the prisoners are more likely to be open without women in the room. Would be nice to get women in on a regular basis. Asheville has a lot of women that go in. Women hugging prisoners and could get ideas and work it however they can. Even coffee can be a disruptive element. Death row prison no women allowed.
- Greeters, preamble is the same.
 - NA three panel discussion for an hour.
 - Structure different for NA inside than outside.
- “Their house, their rules.” No hugging allowed at MSU. Fist bump and handshake is OK. Purdy hugs OK.
- Back to women in meetings: awhile back, only one woman was going into meetings every week and prisoners responded very well. Successful in working the steps amongst themselves and got some long-term sobriety.
 - No uniform one size fits all at each prison.
- To qualify to go out, 85% rule on time outside. Must go through steps to qualify. Tablets inside, potential contact visits. Video visitation only policies. Every camp different, even minimum security. Only minimum security approved for passes can go out. Can hold against them if they don’t participate.
- If come to the meetings on a regular basis, AAs will take people out. If not, won’t take people out.
- Southwest WA, mostly juvenile facilities. Started taking meetings in and found out more of a military bootcamp structure. Was a reward to be brought in. “Craving stability was a part of the mentality.” Alcoholic mentality: “Rather die than follow directions.”
- Jon – corrections not active in District 27. How to receive more district support?
 - Position comes and goes.
 - As far as getting a corrections chair, how to proceed?
 - Is anyone going into the Pacific County Jail? Yes.

- Support from neighboring district – Barry District 21 willing to help.
- No magic button to get someone involved as the chair but can utilize Barry in D21. Sometimes, we need help from other districts. Barry could be an asset in helping getting corrections into District 27.
- When have a position, try to find the person to replace them. When in AA meetings, mention the service that we do and see about seeing if anyone has interest.
- Jennifer fell into service by being “tricked” into doing service and now a part of the recovery journey. Do the same as she progresses in her service career. Being honest about service experience is the best she can do.
 - Don’t necessarily have to go into prisons to be a corrections chair. Just need to show up.
- Replacement in training for each role, ideally. Doesn’t always work that way but ideal setup.
- Natalie: current corrections chair. Struggle to fill many roles – not always a committee for each chair. District is its own committee. Can find mentors amongst the AA community as the unofficial support.

D21 – Barry 2 meetings/week Sun and Tue at Stafford Creek Corrections Facility. 35ish people every Sunday. Good size meeting 2 hours. Last 30 mins if 2 sponsors in, allow the guys to go in with the inmate sponsor for 1 on 1, as long as someone with them. Tuesday book study meeting with about 13-15, depending. Issues are getting books for the guys, which they’re working on. Collaborating with CPC on donation form, books sent to warehouse to go through x-ray. Things going well. Had own GSR with form for district. Barry can put together a report for them. Business meeting: they vote on topics for districts, and Barry passes along group conscience.

- Maria: coordinator for Purdy. Registered with GSO. How long has the corrections group had a GSR?
 - They’ve been doing it since 2014. Purdy has group conscience but no GSR. Will send letters to the district thanking for sending members in.

D36 – Snoqualmie Pass to Duvall. Natalie: past week, held corrections workshop in Duvall. Been wanting to do one for the whole run and finally able to do a workshop. Met with David and Bobby (D3). When people interested in service – got applications from DOC with meetings and times for Monroe. Talked about service at district level and find people willing to simply show up. Elections week of Nov 11th and thinking

about that. Still a challenge getting back into juvenile center Echo Glenn Children Center – got in a year ago for about 6 months. Recent remodel and new staff – haven't been able to get back in. Cleared for prison meeting in Salt Lake for corrections.

Greater Seattle Intergroup – Jennifer: committee meets 2nd Monday every month. Attendance low lately. Facilities: King County Jail reopening men's meeting 2 meetings/month (new facility coordinator Barry – used to go in) women's meeting been up and running for a while, Helen B Radcliffe work release for women – finally having meetings back in again. Greater Seattle Intergroup picnic celebrating 80 years of AA meetings in Seattle. Corrections committee handbook approved at last meeting. Inside sponsorship ad hoc committee at next quarterly. Not met since last quarterly but new development and has done this work before. Should have someone with experience with outside sponsorship.

D22 – Olympic peninsula. Larry: juvenile detention center going well. 2 new applicants being processed. Staffing issue for a while but meetings dribbled down to nothing earlier this year. Going well now. Clallam County Jail – men and women rotate every other week. 26 times/year – 2 sets of 4 volunteers per crew. 4 volunteers per meeting is all allowed. Average about 3 people per group. Inmate attendance from 6-7 people to 14. Clallam Bay OCC Clearwater. Tuesday night Clallam Bay and Monday for restricted housing. Occasions where hasn't been inmates but volunteers show up. Issue with Tuesday night meeting from 6-9. 6-7 unit D and 7-9 general population. Unit D getting out of mealtime late and meeting cut short – 18-20 min meeting. Scheduler addressed with volunteer coordinator. Now going in Wed night, rather than Tue. Unit D getting 2 hour meeting instead of 20 minutes. Another orientation to go into OCC in November.

- For discussion, reimburse for mileage. Can be 100 miles one way to OCC. Clallam Bay 50ish miles one way. Whenever corrections in other locations, did not reimburse. Any thoughts for reimbursing mileage? Give back \$.40/mile for miles.
 - o Where do funds come from for reimbursement?
 - Last year, came up with a program called Green Can specifically for literature. Donations from D22 and D55. Corrections fund that wasn't adequate to cover expenses. Green Can specifically for transportation reimbursement. D22 been participating and program working rather well. Make sure that districts that are contributing funds that money is put into general fund.

- Barry: meetings with prisoners in shackles. Having challenges getting meetings into IMU at Stafford. Any additional intimidation variables there? Volunteers in D22 had no problems with volunteers doing them.

Puget Sound Intergroup – Leah: 2nd Thursday of month. Last quarterly hosted here in Tacoma. Received email from Kathy in D8 in desperate need of large print Big Books. Committee agreed to buy them a case. Leah will follow up with her regarding. Supporting ICE Detention center, Pierce County Jail, JBLM with lit. meetings into Raymond Hall juvenile, WCCW Purdy, Puyallup Tribal, Enumclaw Jail, and Western State Psychiatric. Need or more volunteers and liaisons. Stepped down a week ago as WCCW liaison – Maria new liaison for Purdy. Leah moved to D10 and has no correctional facilities. Still goes into Purdy. Financials: keep running out of Pink Can but still good on general fund. Working on the transition into next rotation. Road shows – PI committee gathers the different committees and gets to talk about corrections and everything we do and the many ways to support corrections. Leah been on many corrections committees and this is the best one.

- What is a road show? Committees do a panel on different roles amongst groups or district meetings to drum up interest/excitement to get people involved in general service.

D43 – Maria: Kitsap County – Gig Harbor to Port Orchard and Peninsula. Meet every other even month 2nd Monday. Celebrating that more than 5 attendees ever since Maria started. Push to take corrections from treatment. Previously had been a combined role. Since 2019 been liaison at Kitsap County Jail. Kitsap only can go on men's side, citing staffing and space is an issue. Day of meeting will call, and much of the time the facility says no. Next rotation, upcoming corrections chair will be liaison for Kitsap County Jail. Goal to re-establish regular meetings with Juvi and enter Kitsap County Jail fully. Haven't been able to get lit into Kitsap County. In the past, donated to Shelton but volunteers that go there are doing their own thing. When Purdy needs books, Maria has them. Committee wants them donated to wherever needed. Has books on hand – district only allows for AA approved literature – has dictionaries they can provide to those in corrections, so they can read the Big Book on their own. CSO sells dictionaries but D43 wouldn't fund them.

- Eastside Intergroup had the same problem with lit with AA adjacent literature that wasn't approved.
- Barry: Stafford and home group – very old large dictionaries on hand (Stafford maybe from the 50s). Things in the Big Book that younger folks don't understand.

- Many volunteers and people in corrections weren't thrilled on PLBB. Benefits having dictionaries on hand for people in corrections.
 - o Can dictionaries be bought with Pink Can fund? No, only general funds only.

D38 – David: liaison to Kirkland Jails. New meeting time/day. Far fewer meetings canceled and staffing issues. 4 new volunteers for the meeting, now just need to fill out applications. Still interest in meetings but sometimes only 1-2 people signing up. Was previously 4-7. Several AA have dropped out because of life changes. Averaging 3-4 meetings a month. Logistics issue if only 1-2 people signing up. If not enough volunteers, must be in the visitation room and communicate through a speaker.

- Liaison is not generally a position that is rotated out of. Corrections staff prefer to deal with the same people; liaison doesn't really rotate out.

(Written report)

Accomplishments from the past quarter: We've had a lot less meetings canceled because of staffing issues after moving the meeting to Tue, 6:30-7:30pm. I've identified four potential volunteers for the meeting. I am working to get them to fill out applications and get them to the sergeant for approval. There is still interest in meetings, but some weeks only one or two people sign up, we were seeing four to six people a week.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with: We've had several volunteers drop out because of life scheduling changes. I've had to rework the schedule a couple of times to replace the volunteers that are unavailable. We are averaging three out of four meetings a month. The one meeting that is canceled is because no one has signed up or lack of staff at the jail. If there are only one or two ppl signed up, they usually put us in the visitation room. It is not the best environment for a meeting as there is a glass partition and sometimes the speaker cuts out. I need to get more books, ESIG has Pink Can funds. I need to contact the ESIG Corrections Chair to approve my order.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter: Get the next batch of volunteers approved. Continue working with and developing a better repour w/ the new jail Navigator. Keep literature in stock.

D4 – (written report): "Breaking news we are going to be able to take meetings into the Skagit Regional Justice Center after the first of the year. We are currently in talks with the officer in charge of the jail. They are now requesting books which we are able to accommodate."

D37 – (written report): “District 37 has some exciting news. Clark County Jail Services has contracted with Coastal Community Action Program to provide very temporary housing to inmates who are being released from jail but have nowhere to go. The program is called the Landing Pad. Inmates released to the Landing Pad will be required to remain on the Landing Pad premises for up to two weeks while staff work with them to secure housing. This is a huge step forward for inmates who have nowhere to go upon release and who were previously released at 1am in the morning, because that was the convenient time for the jail staff. We have been asked to, and are now bringing meetings into the Landing Pad.”

D27 – (written report): “Currently the Peninsula Group takes meetings into South Bend Jail each Tuesday of each month for both Men and Women. The meeting agenda is book study followed by discussion. Cowlitz County Groups take meetings into Cowlitz County Jail the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month for both Men and Women, usually first step sharing followed by discussion and question answering. D27 has not had any Pre-Release requests this year.”

Prerelease contact suggestions: how many meetings are recommended?

Next December quarterly location? Possibly Seattle Intergroup.