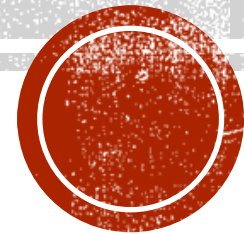


**DISTRICT 7
2024 ORIENTATION**



DISTRICT 7 2024 ORIENTATION PART 1

- **Overview of the A.A. Service Structure (U.S. and Canada)**
- **General Service Representative (GSR): Vital Communication Link**
- **Carrying the voice of the A.A. Home Group**
- **Timeline of Seeking Group Conscience**

☀ **Question and Answer**

👤 **10 Minute Break**



**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
SERVICE STRUCTURE
U.S. AND CANADA**



CONCEPT I

“THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ULTIMATE AUTHORITY FOR A.A. WORLD SERVICES SHOULD ALWAYS RESIDE IN THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE OF OUR WHOLE FELLOWSHIP.”

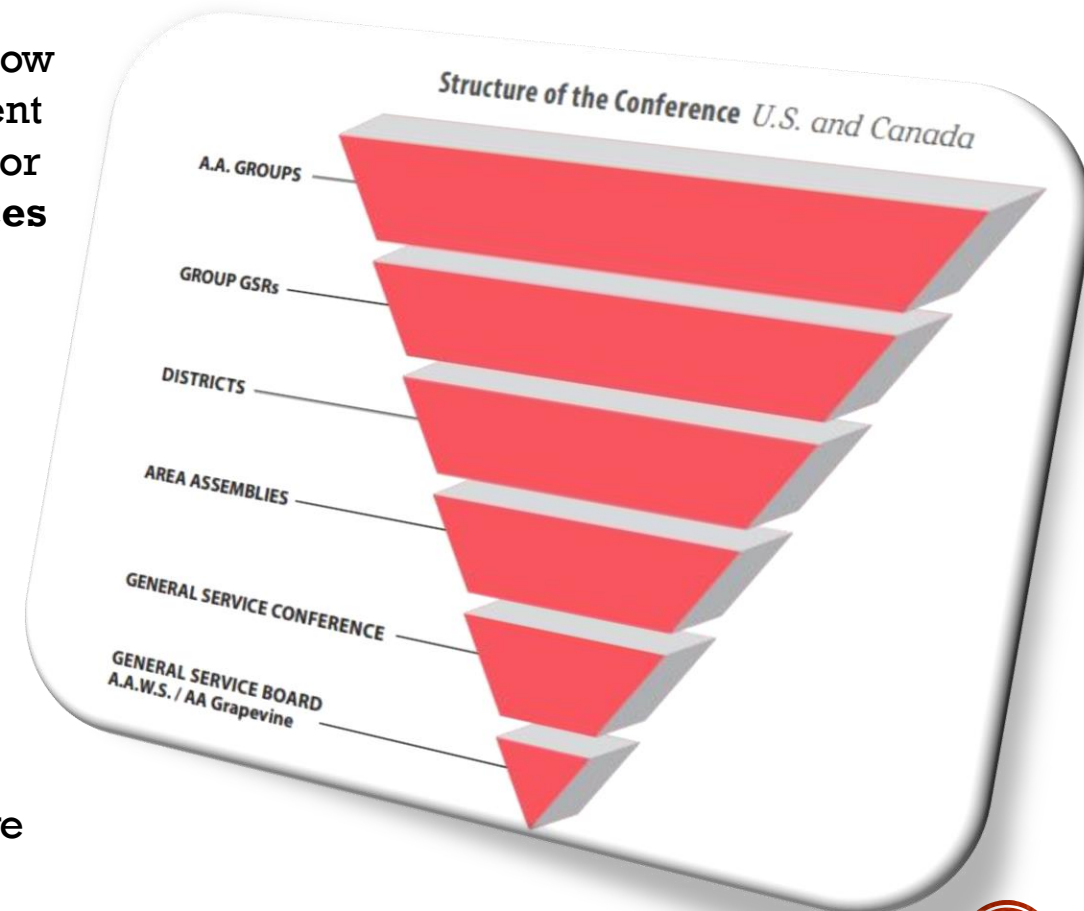
“...an **A.A. service** is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer — ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.’s General Service Office for national and international action. **The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy of Service.**”

The A.A. Groups: “...the groups have final authority.

- But how do the groups make their thoughts and wishes — their group conscience — known to the rest of the triangle?
- General service is organized to do exactly this. Each section of the triangle has a role to play.”

The general service structure ensures that the groups in A.A. have a voice in the affairs of their own Fellowship...

A.A. was there for you when you needed it. The work you do as a trusted servant in general service helps ensure that A.A. will be there when alcoholics come for help in the future.



CONCEPT I

“THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ULTIMATE AUTHORITY FOR A.A. WORLD SERVICES SHOULD ALWAYS RESIDE IN THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE OF OUR WHOLE FELLOWSHIP.”

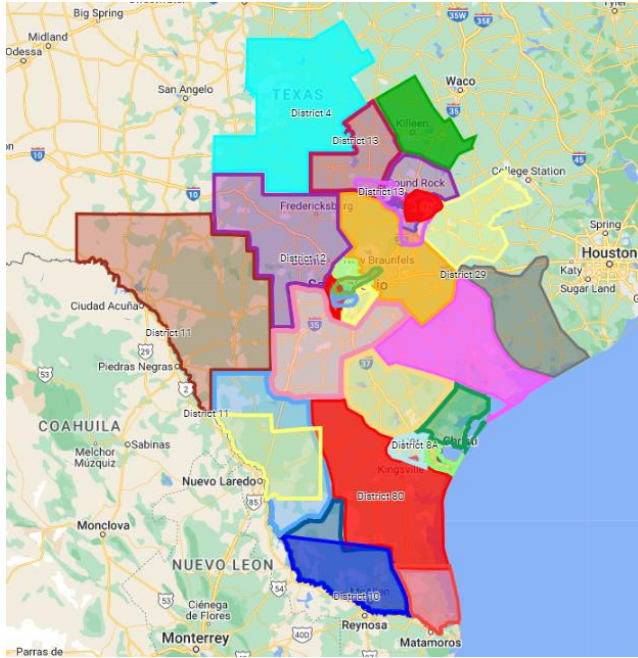
“The entire structure of A.A. depends upon the participation and conscience of the individual groups, and how each of these groups conducts its affairs has a ripple effect on A.A. everywhere. Thus, we are ever individually conscious of our responsibility for our own sobriety and, as a group, for carrying the A.A. message to the suffering alcoholic who reaches out to us for help.”

General service representative (GSR): Working via the district and area committees, the GSR is the group’s link with the General Service Conference, through which U.S. and Canadian groups share their experience and voice A.A.’s collective conscience.

Sometimes called **“the guardians of the Traditions,”** GSRs become familiar with A.A.’s Third Legacy — our spiritual responsibility to give service freely.

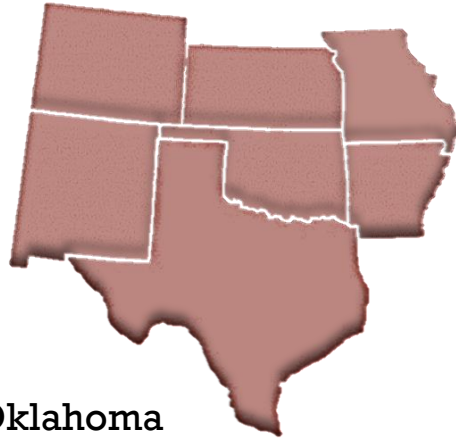


**WE SERVE IN THE:
SOUTHWEST TEXAS AREA
(SWTA)
OUR AREA NUMBER IS 68**



Our Area is located in the Southwest Region

- Area 4 Arkansas
- Area 10 Colorado
- Area 25 Kansas
- Area 38 Eastern Missouri
- Area 39 Western Missouri
- Area 46 New Mexico



- Area 57 Oklahoma
- Area 65 Northeast Texas
- Area 66 Northwest Texas
- Area 67 Southeast Texas
- Area 68 Southwest Texas

What Are Panels?

We are serving during Panel 74
Covers Years: 2024 - 2025

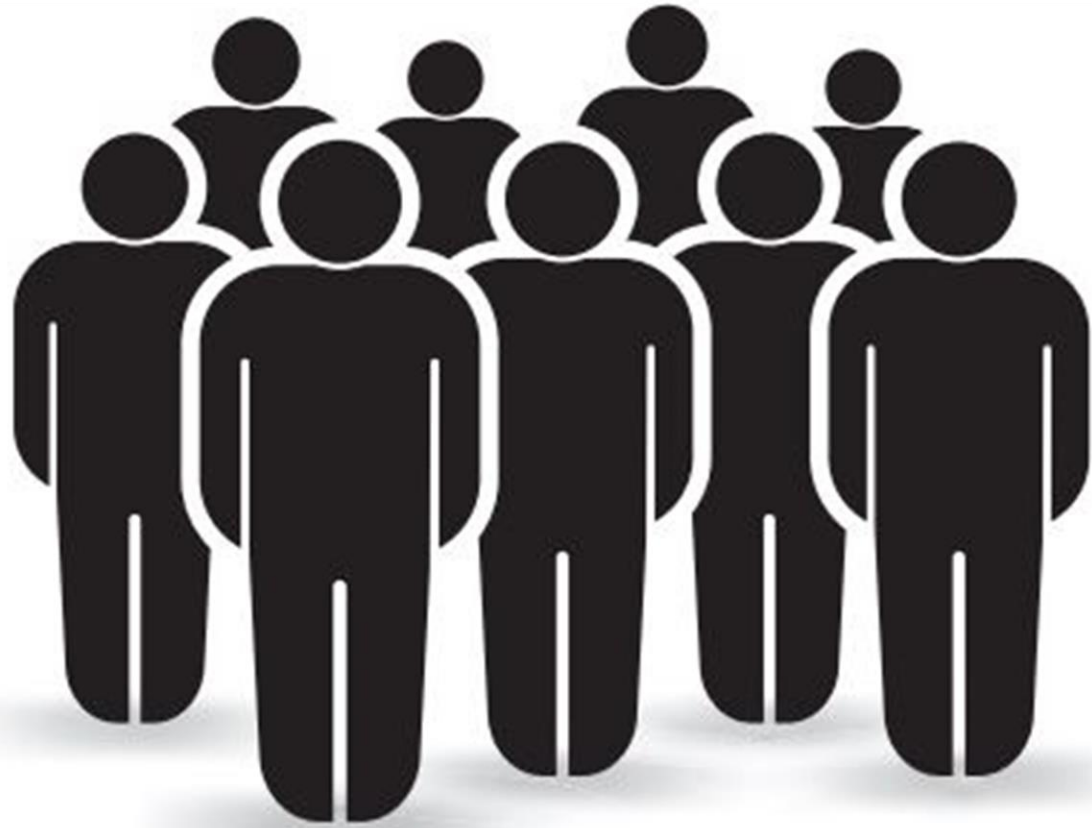
Each Panel is 2 years.

The idea is for our Delegate and Area Committee, DCM and District Committee, and GSRs/Alt GSRs to all serve during those same 2 Years.

Our Area 68 is even year Panels.
Rotation occurs every even year.

- Panel 1 - Served Years: 1951 - 1952
- Panel 2 - Served Years: 1952 - 1953
- Panel 3 - Served Years: 1953 - 1954

TIDBITS ON OUR LOCAL AREA



Anytown Group

THE GROUP

The group meets to form a group conscience on proposed changes or actions on matters relating to A.A. as a whole.

The group's elected **general service representative**, or **GSR**, is tasked with:

- 1) making sure the group's conscience is heard and fully considered at the district and the area
- 2) and becoming part of the delegate's thinking at the Conference.





Countywide Districts



Your Area



*General Service Conference
U.S./Canada*

The District

Your District holds periodic meetings. **GSRs** are voting members in the District. The **GSR** attends to learn what is occurring in A.A. as a whole and in your local district.

The Area

Your Area holds 4 assemblies that include **GSRs** as voting members. The **GSR** attends to learn what is occurring in A.A. as a whole and in your local area.

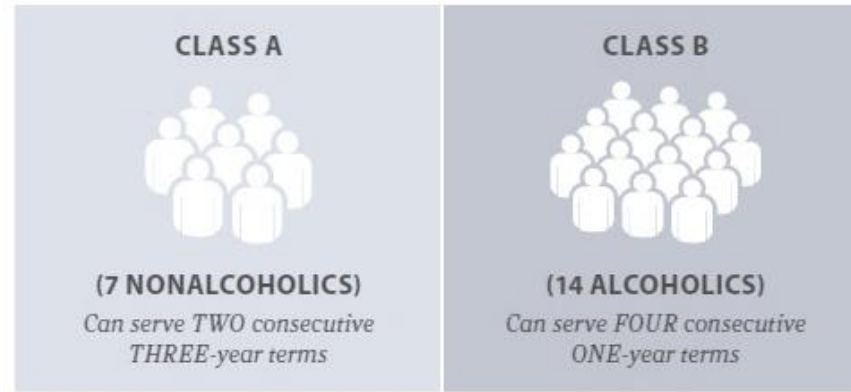
The Conference

Before the Conference Meeting:
Your Delegate will ask to seek your Group Conscience on the Agenda Items coming to the yearly Conference.

After the Conference meeting:
Your Delegate reports back on the Conference proceedings.



General Service Board Composition



General Service Board (GSB)

Our General Service Board is a not-for-profit comprised of: **7 Class A Trustees** (Non-Alcoholics) & **14 Class B Trustees** (Alcoholics): Responsible and responsive to the Fellowship through the General Service Conference. Concerned with matters affecting the primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS)

Oversees the service and publishing activities of the General Service Office (GSO) in the U.S. and Canada, as well as communications with A.A. service entities and offices around the world Publishes and distributes A.A. books, pamphlets and other items

Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine (AAGV)

Oversees the Grapevine office, Publishes and distributes the A.A. Grapevine magazine and the Spanish edition, La Viña, Publishes and distributes Grapevine books and other content-related items.



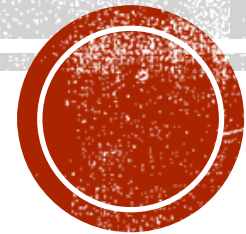
A.A.W.S. Corporate Board Composition



A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Board Composition



**GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
(GSR)**



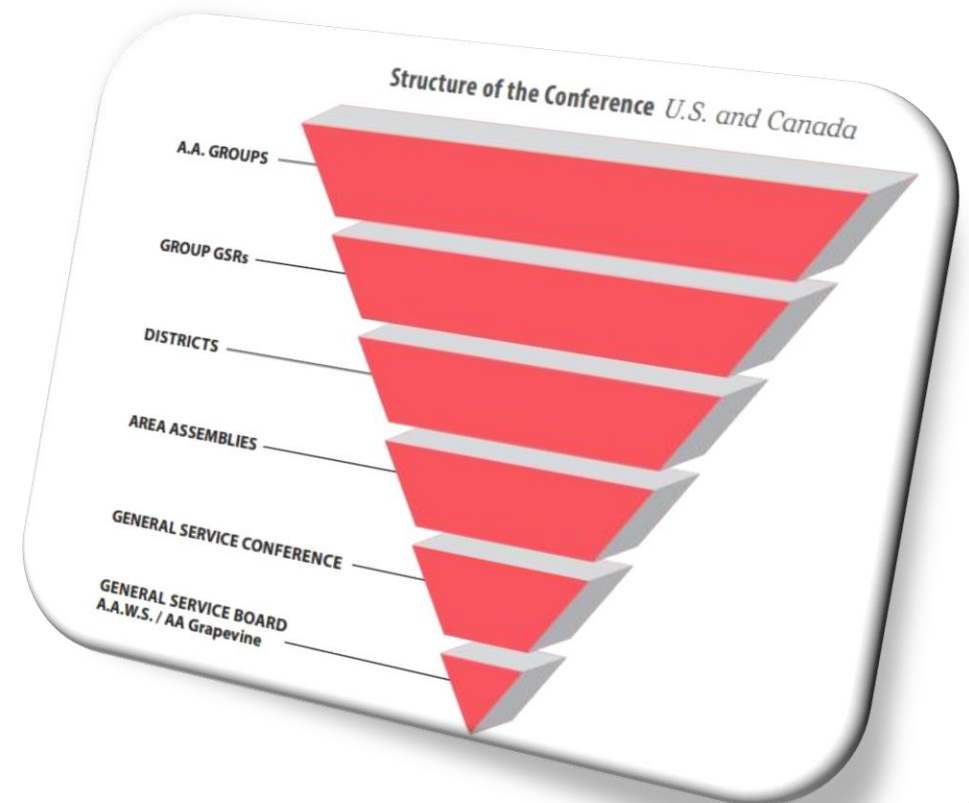
CONCEPT I

“THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ULTIMATE AUTHORITY FOR A.A. WORLD SERVICES SHOULD ALWAYS RESIDE IN THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE OF OUR WHOLE FELLOWSHIP.”

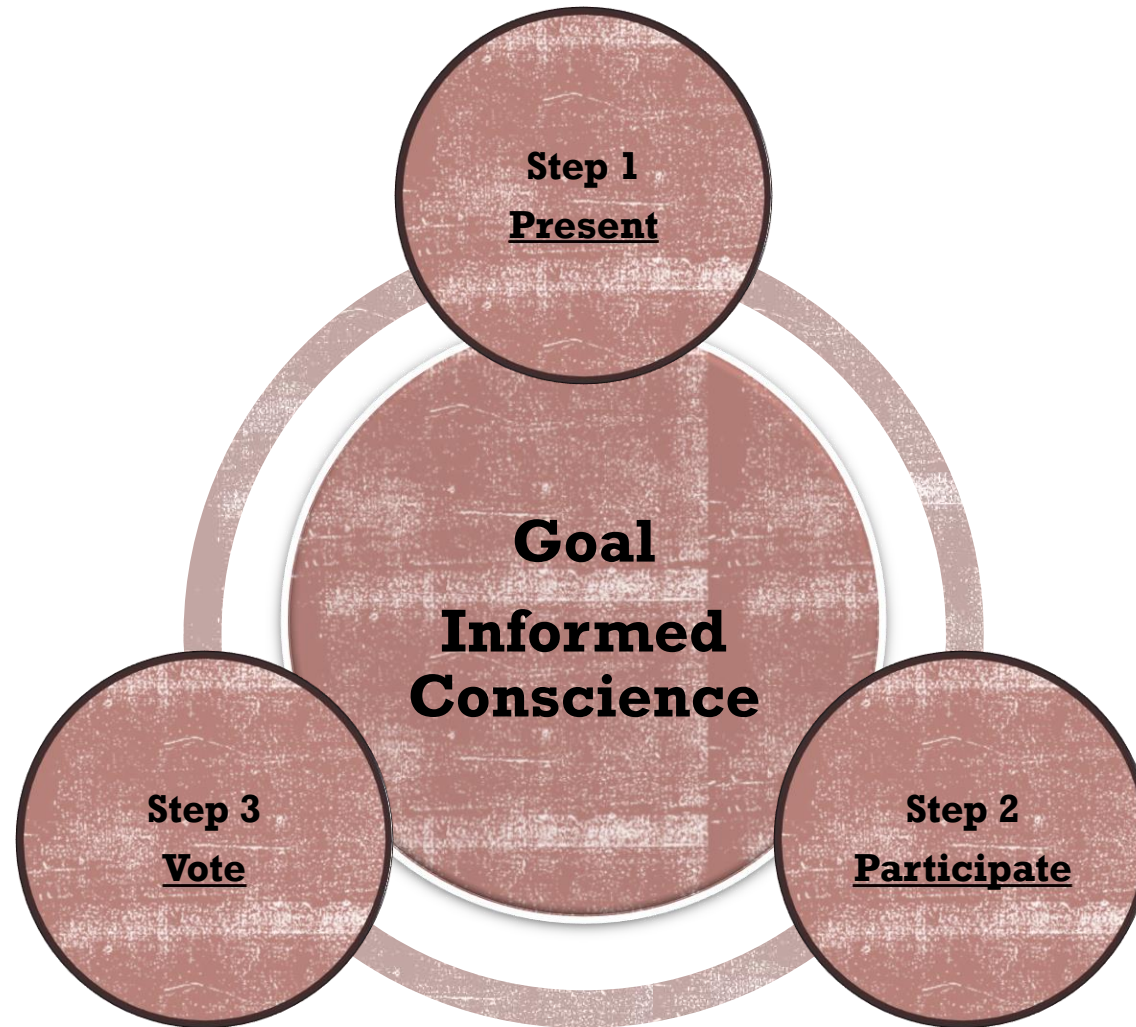
The role of the GSR is essential to ensuring that groups can fulfill that responsibility.

Only when a GSR keeps the group informed and communicates the group conscience can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole.

This communication is a two-way street, making the GSR responsible not only for bringing forward the group’s voice, but for taking back to the group Conference actions that affect the Fellowship’s unity, health and growth.



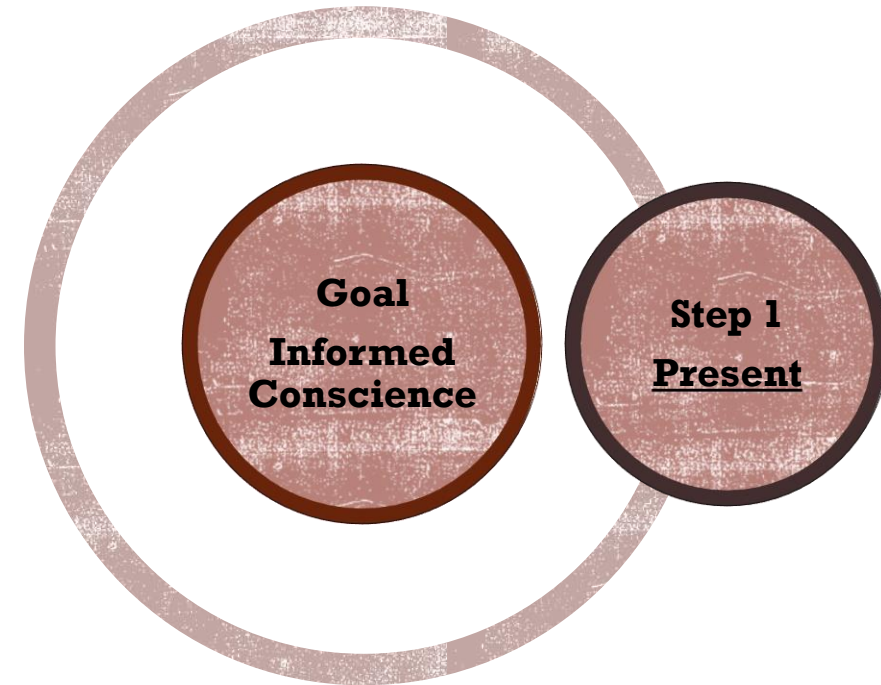
“WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A GSR?”



“WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A GSR?”

When the GSR is present at assemblies and district meetings, the group’s voice is heard.

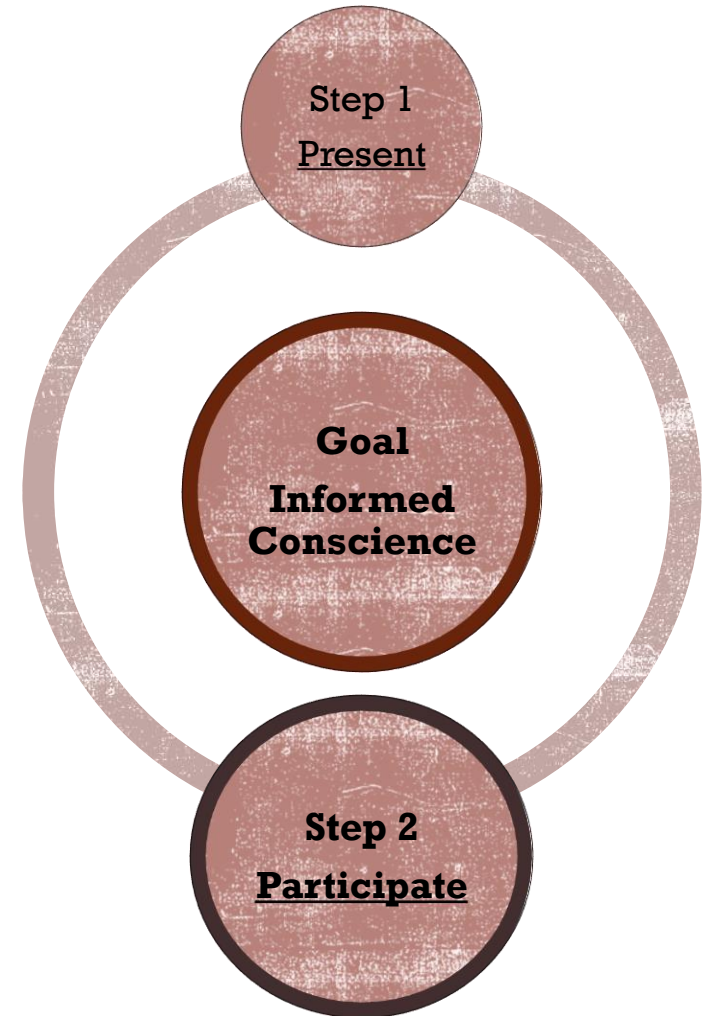
- The presence of a GSR says their group cares about what’s going on in the Fellowship and wants to learn and make its concerns and suggestions known.



“WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A GSR?”

When the GSR participates, the group’s voice is heard.

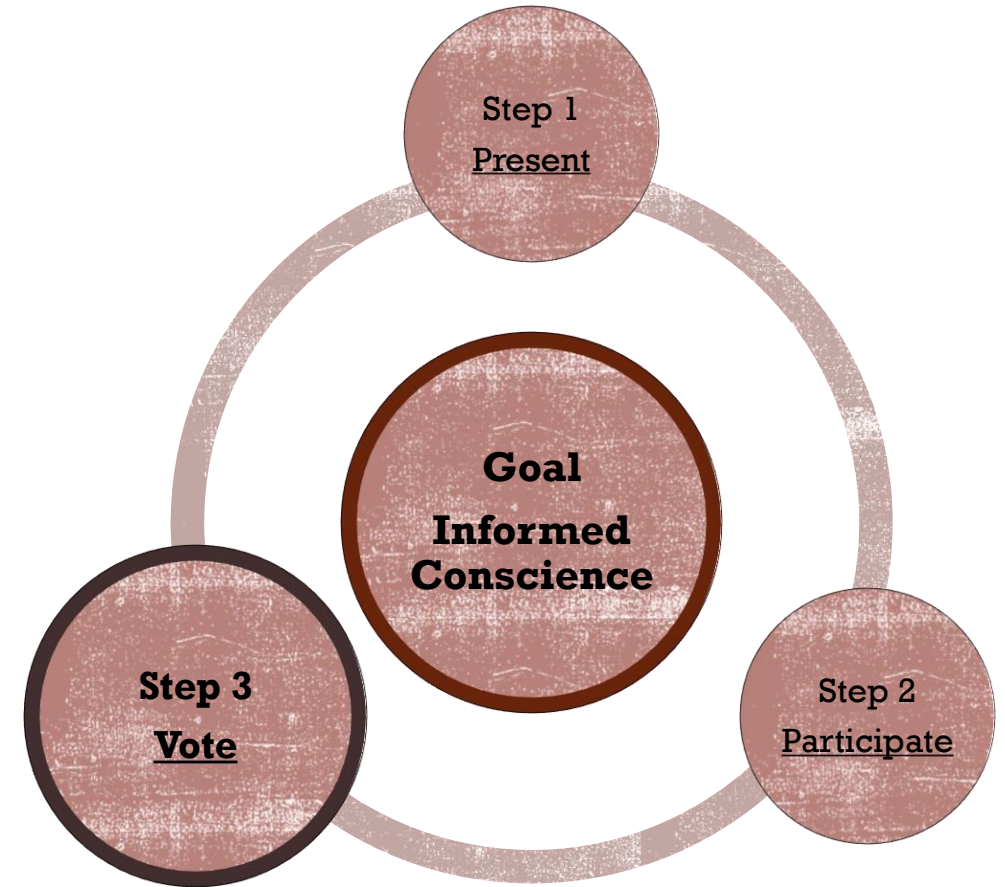
- It can be through a GSR sharing the group’s concerns across a conference table from other GSRs in a district meeting.
- It can be through questioning a budget item or proposing an idea important to the group at an area assembly.
- It can be through making an impassioned plea about an agenda item to the delegate on the eve of the annual General Service Conference meeting.



“WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A GSR?”

When the **GSR votes**, the group’s voice is heard.

- The GSR votes on the trusted servants to lead the district and the area as well as the delegate to represent the area at the annual General Service Conference meeting.
- The group’s voice is heard when the GSR votes on matters presented before the District and the Area voting body.



ROLE OF THE ALTERNATE GSR

“An alternate GSR is elected at the same time in the event that the GSR may be unable to attend all district and area meetings. Alternate GSRs should be encouraged to share the responsibilities of the GSR at the group, district and area levels.”

- The A.A. Group...where it all begins (Pamphlet P-16)

- It is just as important for Alternate GSRs to be active and involved in the service role as it is with the GSR. Work together!
- If, as a GSR, you are not able to attend a District meeting or Area assembly, the Alternate GSR needs to be just as familiar with the proceedings as the GSR.



COMMUNICATIONS AND E-MAILS

- Please be sure both you and your Alternate GSR are receiving the District 7 Communications.
- These notifications contain information on upcoming service assemblies, service meetings, updates from our Delegate and important information from both the Area and District, and much more are included in those e-mails.

ATTENTION: NEW GSRs and Alternate GSRs:

- ↳ If you have not completed the **Group Information Change Form**, please do so.
- ↳ The change form provides the District, Area and AAWS knowledge of who is serving and is utilized for communication and e-mails. [Group Information Change Form](#)
- ↳ Submitting the form also triggers for you to receive a GSR Kit via mail (*if you made this selection on the form*).
- ↳ Alternate GSRs do not receive a Kit. However, all information is available [online](#) and can be ordered via [AAWS on aa.org](#).



GSR Kit: Familiarize with the suggested literature

CONTENTS OF GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (G.S.R.) KIT

aa.org/information-for-new-trusted-servants

List of Kit Contents (this page)

(GSRLISTW)

BOOKS:

[The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service](#)

(BM-31)

SERVICE MATERIAL:

Memo to you, the new G.S.R.*

(F-57)

[Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix](#)

(F-3)

[Your A.A. General Service Office](#)

(F-6)

[Corrections Correspondence](#)

(F-26)

[A.A. Group Information Change Form](#)

(F-28)

[Self-Support Card](#)

(F-42)

[The A.A. Group Treasurer](#)

(F-96)

[Your Seventh Tradition Contribution: Carrying Our Message Beyond](#)

[Your Home Group](#)

(F-203)

Group Contribution Envelope*

(FR-2)

Birthday Contribution Envelope*

(FR-5)

[Concepts Checklist](#)

(SMF-91)

[Traditions Checklist](#)

(SMF-131)

[Safety and A.A. - Our Common Welfare](#)

(SMF-209)

PAMPHLETS:

[Twelve Concepts Illustrated](#)

(P-8)

[The A.A. Group](#)

(P-16)

[Inside A.A.](#)

(P-18)

[G.S.R.: General Service Representative](#)

(P-19)

[Twelve Traditions Illustrated](#)

(P-43)

[Circles of Love and Service](#)

(P-45)

[Grapevine and La Viña](#)

(P-52)

CATALOGS/ORDER FORMS:

[Literature Catalog \(includes A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine material\)](#)

(F-10)

AA GRAPEVINE RESOURCES:

Available through the AA Grapevine website at <https://www.aagrapevine.org/get-involved>

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)

* Item is not available on our Web site. Please contact the [Group Services](#) desk if you have questions about this item.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE HOME GROUP

Tradition Seven (excerpt)

“The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members.”

- With ample time, inform your group of upcoming Service Events where Travel, Hotel & Food expenses may be incurred.
- Provide an estimate in advance for your group to review and decide how best to support the Group being represented at the service events.
- Ride share and Hotel Room share with other GSRs in your District may help to lessen the expense on groups.

Why does the Group need to reimburse me if I can personally afford it?

Our support of services actually amounts to a recognition on our part that A.A. must everywhere function in full strength — and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill.”

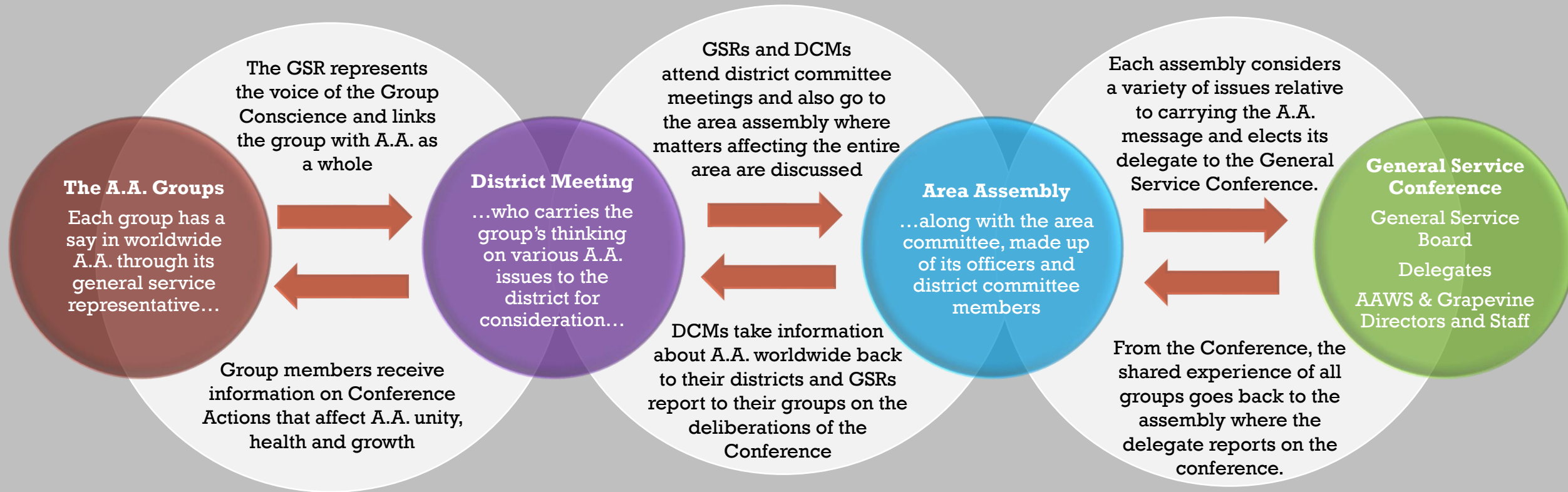


**CARRYING THE VOICE
OF THE A.A. HOME GROUP**



CARRYING THE VOICE OF THE A.A. HOME GROUP

Tradition 2 Short Form: “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.”



WHAT IS AN INFORMED A.A. GROUP CONSCIENCE?

The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken.

How to Achieve:

This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles.

To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind.

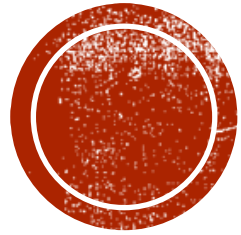
On sensitive issues, the group works slowly — discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. Placing principles before personalities, the membership is wary of dominant opinions.

The Result:

Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The result rests on more than a “yes” or “no” count — precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience.



GATHERING A GROUP CONSCIENCE



EXAMPLE

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE (GSC) AGENDA ITEMS

GATHERING A GROUP CONSCIENCE

GSC AGENDA ITEMS

- Select a few Agenda Items you believe your Group will be interested in discussing
 - It is customary in the Southwest Texas Area for the Delegate to also select some specific Agenda items that they would like to obtain the conscience from the A.A. Groups
- Schedule/Announce a meeting to be held for specific discussion
- Prepare for the meeting:
 - 📌 Read the background material for those selected Agenda Items
 - 📌 Prepare a brief factual summary based on the background material
- Record the input received from the group - GSRs may elect to hold a vote while others provide all comments received





**IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION - ITEM A. CONSIDER REQUESTS TO CREATE AND SELL
TABLE CLOTH COVERINGS FOR PRESENTATIONS.**





IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION - ITEM A. CONSIDER REQUESTS TO CREATE AND SELL TABLE CLOTH COVERINGS FOR PRESENTATIONS.

Two Proposed Agenda Items were submitted for creating and selling table cloths.

One came from an Area and the other from an A.A. Group

Points from the Background:

All PI committee tables will look uniform with the same table cloth

PI committees will not have to reinvent the wheel and try to figure out how to have a table cloth created

Points from the Background:

Have the Table cloth include the words:

- 1. Alcoholics Anonymous**
- 2. We can help!**

**Sample
Table Cloth
from the
Background**

Sample

*Alcoholics Anonymous
We Can Help!*





IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION - ITEM A. CONSIDER REQUESTS TO CREATE AND SELL TABLE CLOTH COVERINGS FOR PRESENTATIONS.

Question:

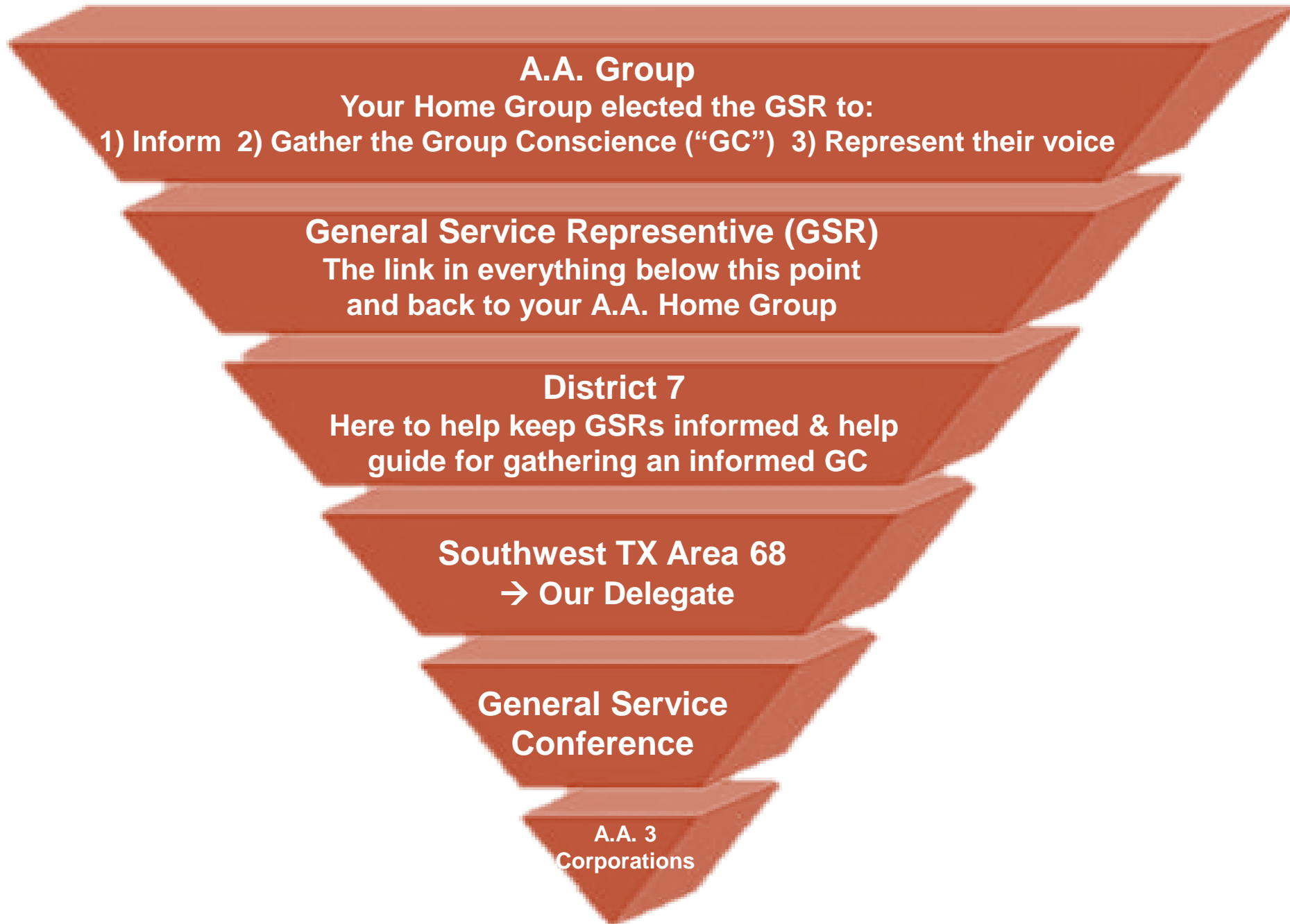
- 1. Do you believe if A.A. World Services (AAWS) started to create and sell table clothes, it will help us to be uniform in our presence?**
- 2. Do you believe the tablecloths will help in carrying the A.A. message?**
- 3. What sizes, font and color table cloths do you think AAWS should sell?**
- 4. Do you want AAWS to sell table clothes? (v)**



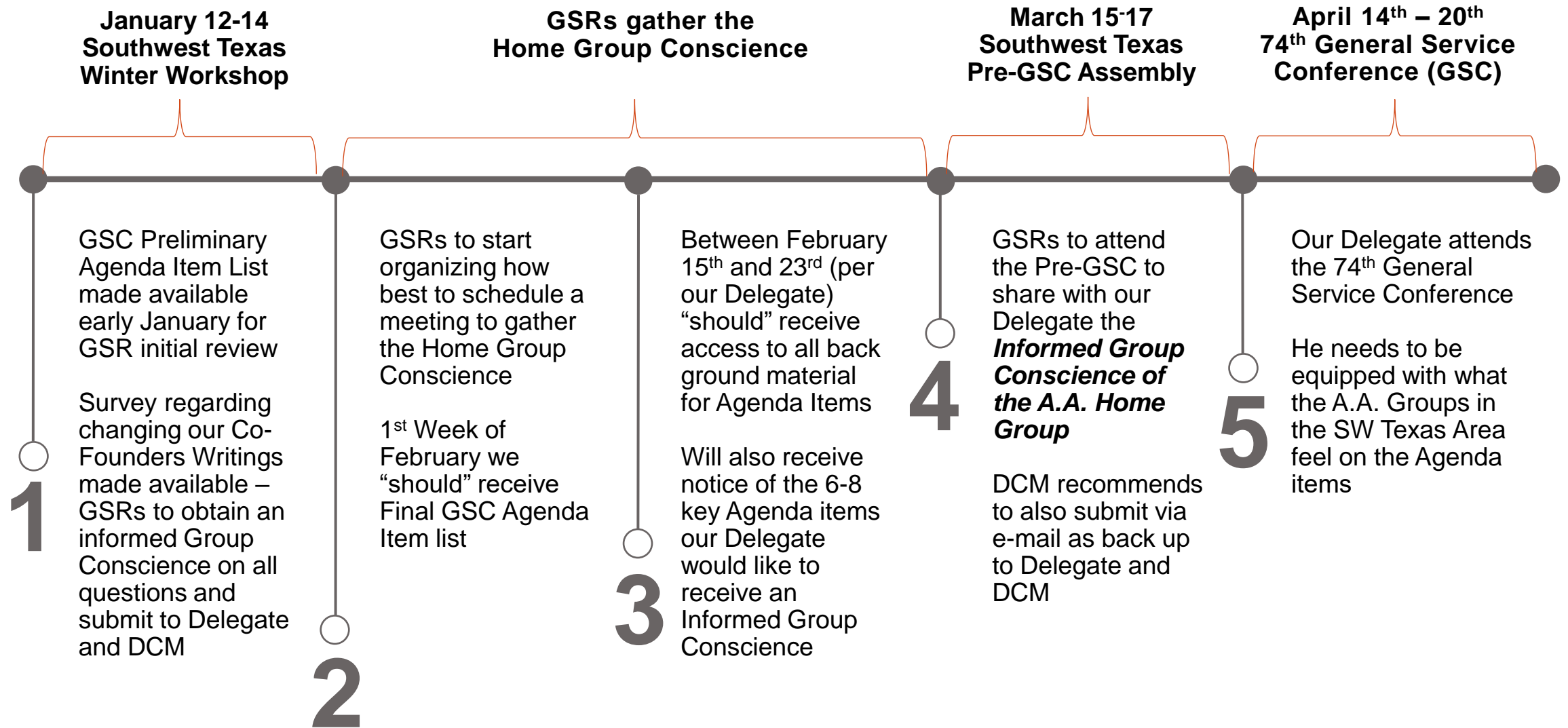
Record the input received from the group - Groups may elect to hold a vote while others provide all comments received

Committee: IV. Public Information	Vote		Group Conscience Comments
Agenda Item: A	Yay	Nay	
<p>Proposal: Consider requests to Create and Sell Table Cloth coverings for presentations.</p> <p>Question for Vote: 1. Do you want AAWS to start selling table clothes? (v)</p>	1	5	<p>1. Do you believe if AAWS started to create and sell table clothes, it will help us to be uniform in our presence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No, I think each entity will still want to create their own - Some Groups cannot afford table clothes - Yes, it would be good branding for everyone to use the same table cloth <p>2. Do you believe the tablecloths will help in carrying the A.A. message?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes, I believe table cloths support our 12th Step. It is important that visual we look consistant - No, there are too many variables to creating table clothes. We will then argue that the table cloth looks bad and needs to be longer. - Branding in the Public is very important <p>3. What sizes, font and color table cloths do you think AAWS should sell?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggestions received color: Blue and Yellow only like our Big Book, Black hides stains better - Suggestions received font :Bold, Cursive, a funky font to draw people in - Suggestions on Size: None received. there was much conversation that longer is good, that way if it also fits on a smallet table. Maybe 2-3 sizes only.



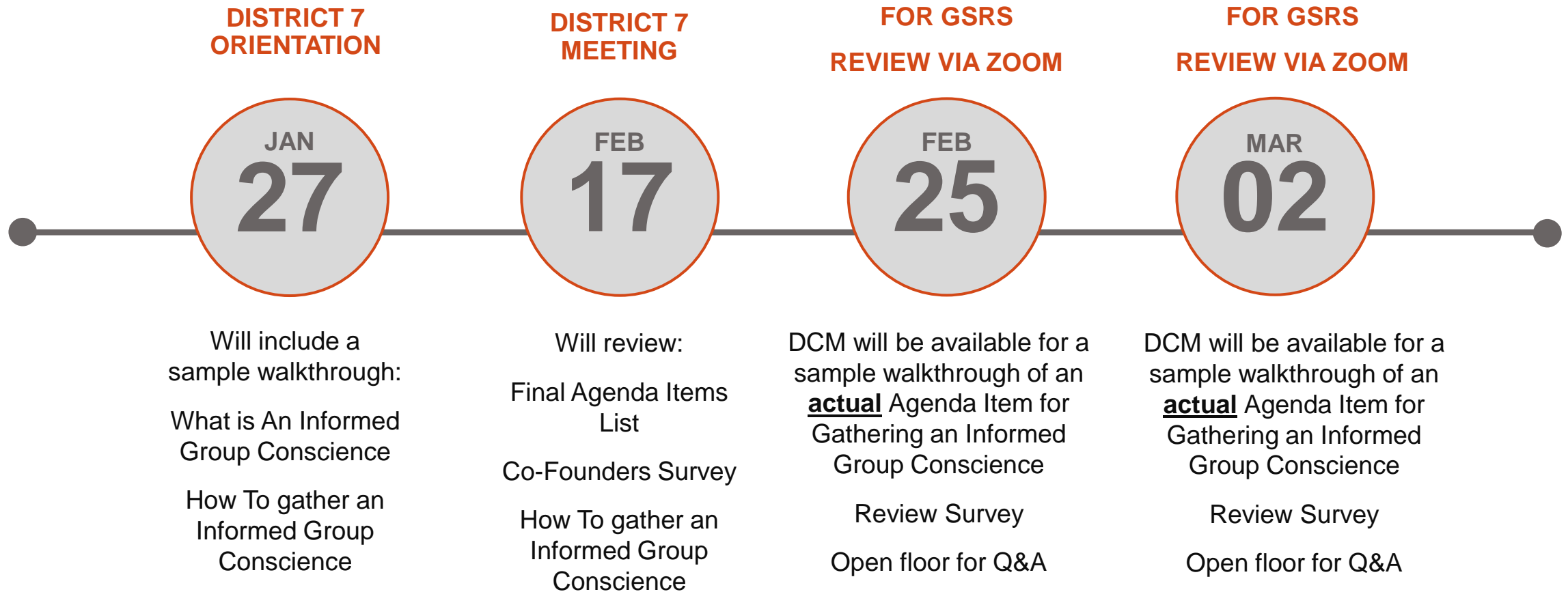


74TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE (“GSC”) SNAPSHOT TIMELINE FOR AN INFORMED GROUP CONSCIENCE



District 7: How we plan to help support the GSRS

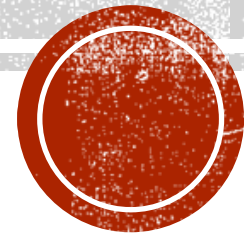
As information becomes available: District 7 DCM will send the information via e-mail



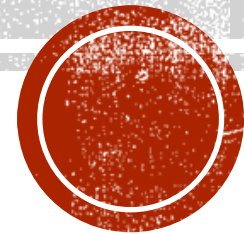
Feel free to reach out between these dates as well:
district7@aa-swta.org -- 214.683.1381 (cell)

Time and Zoom Access Information
February 25th 4:00pm and/or March 2nd 9:30am
Meeting ID: 875 4568 1281 Passcode: 700641

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



10 MINUTE BREAK



DISTRICT 7 2024 ORIENTATION PART 2

- **Leadership in Alcoholics Anonymous**
 - **Opportunity to study the A.A. Service Manual**
 - **Resources for the Twelve Traditions**
 - **Overview of Standing Service Committees**
 - **District 7 serving the Home Groups**
 - **What Does a GSR Report?**
 - **Upcoming Service Events and Important Dates**
- ☀ **Question and Answer**



LEADERSHIP IN A.A.:

EVER A VITAL NEED



LEADERSHIP IN A.A.: EVER A VITAL NEED

CONCEPT IX ESSAY

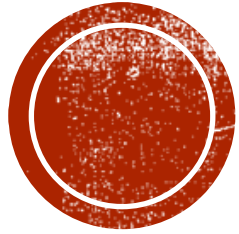
“First let’s remember that the base for our service structure rests on the dedication and ability of several thousand General Service Representatives (G.S.R.’s), several hundred area Committee Members, and nearly a hundred Delegates.

These are the direct agents of the A.A. groups; these are the indispensable linkage between our Fellowship and its world service; these are the primary representatives of A.A.’s group conscience. Without their support and activity we could not operate permanently at all.”

- “A leader in A.A. service is therefore a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job.”
- “Our leaders do not drive by mandate, they lead by example.” In effect, we are saying to them, “Act for us, but don’t boss us.”
- “Another qualification for leadership is “give and take,” the ability to compromise cheerfully whenever a proper compromise can cause a situation to progress in what appears to be the right direction.”
- “Vision is...the ability to make good estimates, both for the immediate and for the more distant future.”
- “We shall be in continual need of these same attributes—tolerance, responsibility, flexibility, and vision—among our leaders of A.A. services at all levels.”



A.A. SERVICE MANUAL IN DEPTH STUDY



- ➔ **When:** Every other Thursday
 - 📅 Upcoming Dates: February 1st, 15th, 29th
- ➔ **Time:** 6:30pm central
- ➔ **Where:** via Zoom
 - 💻 Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502
 - 💻 Passcode: Service24

SOUTHWEST REGION A.A. MEMBERS

Meeting held every other Thursday @ 6:30pm central
A.A. SERVICE MANUAL
IN DEPTH BOOK STUDY

Virtual (via Zoom)

Area 4 Arkansas
Area 10 Colorado
Area 25 Kansas
Area 38 Eastern Missouri
Area 39 Western Missouri
Area 46 New Mexico
Area 57 Oklahoma
Area 65 Northeast Texas
Area 66 Northwest Texas
Area 67 Southeast Texas
Area 68 Southwest Texas

Curious A.A. members from
the SW Region getting
together for an in depth study
of the A. A. Service Manual.



[Learn More](#)

We want You!

A most effective way for us
to learn is to hear from those
who have the experience.
We welcome you to join us
and share!



[Share with us](#)

Join us - Upcoming Meeting Dates:
January 18th and February 1st, 15th, 29th @ 6:30pm central

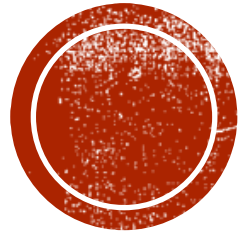
For More Information or to be
added to our e-mail reminder list:

✉ 3legacyservice@gmail.com

📍 via Zoom

Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502

Passcode: Service24



2ND LEGACY OF UNITY

OUR TWELVE TRADITIONS

TRADITION QUESTIONS

“Our Traditions are a guide to better ways of working and living,” co-founder Bill W. said. “And they are to group survival what A.A.’s Twelve Steps are to each member’s sobriety and peace of mind.... Most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group. The group must survive or the individual will not.”... - P-43 The Twelve Traditions Illustrated

Helpful Resources for the Twelve Traditions:

Pamphlets

- A.A. Tradition — How It Developed
- The Twelve Traditions Illustrated
- The A.A. Group ...where it all begins
- Your District Committee Member (DCM) and Area Delegate
- General Service Office (GSO) – “Experience shares...”

Books

- Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
- A.A. Comes of Age
- Language of the Heart

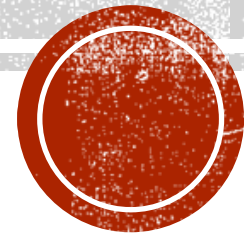


“...you can help when your group faces a problem involving one of the Traditions. You don’t have to know all the answers — no one member possibly could — but you learn where to look for good suggestions, drawn from broad A.A. experience.”

- P-19 G.S.R. General Service Representative



**TYPES OF SERVICE COMMITTEES
IN THE A.A. HOME GROUP & THE DISTRICT**



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

- ☞ Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.)
- ☞ Correctional Facilities (C.F.)
- ☞ Grapevine and La Viña (GV and LV)
- ☞ Intergroup Liaison (Coastal Bend Intergroup Association = CBIA)
- ☞ Public Information (P.I.)
- ☞ Treatment Facilities (T.F.)
- ☞ Website Chairperson

If your Home Group is interested in implementing a local project or wants a presentation/more information on a particular type of service – let us know!

If you are interested in serving as a Committee Chair - reach out to our DCM for a preliminary review of the responsibilities.



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

→ **Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.)**

Importance:

- Members of C.P.C. committees inform professionals and future professionals about A.A.
- Establishing better communication with professionals working with alcoholics
- Finding simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating
- Explaining clearly what A.A. does and doesn't do

Resources:

- www.aa.org/Cooperation-with-the-Professional-Community
 - Workbook (M-41i)
 - Committee Kit (F-66w)



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

→ **Correctional Facilities (C.F.)**

Importance:

- Members of Corrections Committees coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups to carry the message of recovery to alcoholics who are in custody.
- Bringing meetings and literature into facilities
- Raising awareness of the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) among "inside" and "outside" A.A. members
- Helping individuals in custody transition to a local A.A. community through Prerelease Contacts

Resources:

- www.aa.org/corrections-committees
 - Workbook (M-45i)
 - Committee Kit (F-68w)

Upcoming Workshop -- Southwest Texas Area (SWTA) 68

→ **Corrections Conference (CFC)**

Date: February 2-4 2024

Location: Bastrop, Texas



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

➔ **Grapevine and La Viña (GV and LV)**

Importance:

- ➔ Corrections & Treatment Facilities typically welcome donations of Grapevine and La Viña. In these cases, Grapevine and La Viña may be the only exposure to A.A. that the inmates and patients receive.
- ➔ Working with other committees to supply Grapevine and La Viña issues, such as Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee (CPC) and Public Information (PI).
- ➔ Sharing with Newcomers
- ➔ Grapevine Publishes Stories by Groups sharing their experience, strength, and hope on topics important to our Home Groups
- ➔ Podcast, Daily Quote, Submit a story, Audio Project, Grapevine App, and more....

Resources:

- ➔ www.aagrapevine.org & www.aalavina.org
- ➔ GVR Workbook: www.aagrapevine.org/gvr-resources
- ➔ Ideas on getting involved: www.aagrapevine.org/get-involved



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

➔ **Intergroup Liaison (Coastal Bend Intergroup Association = CBIA)**

Importance:

- ➔ A central office or intergroup is an A.A. service office that involves partnership among groups in a community — just as A.A. groups themselves are partnerships of individuals.
- ➔ A central office/intergroup is established to carry out certain functions common to all the groups — functions that are best handled by a centralized office — and it is usually maintained, supervised and supported by these groups in their general interest.
- ➔ It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Resources offered by our Coastal Bend Intergroup - cbiaa.org

- ➔ 24 Hour Hotline
- ➔ Meeting Listings (connects to the Meeting Guide App)
- ➔ Literature for sale
- ➔ Local Fellowship Events
- ➔ Monthly Newsletter



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

← **Public Information (P.I.)**

Importance:

- ➔ Members of Public Information Committees convey A.A. information to the general public.
- ➔ Giving presentations about A.A. to schools and organizations.
- ➔ Providing information about A.A. through digital and print materials.
- ➔ Ensuring local media have accurate information about A.A. through PSAs, anonymity-protected interviews and press kits.

Resources:

- ➔ www.aa.org/public-information-committees
 - ➔ Workbook (M-27i)
 - ➔ Committee Kit (F-65w)



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

→ **Treatment Facilities (T.F.)**

Importance:

- ➔ Members of Treatment Committees work to carry the A.A. message into treatment settings where suffering alcoholics, and the professionals who treat them, may be introduced to A.A.
- ➔ Bring the message of hope for recovery to alcoholics in a variety of treatment settings
- ➔ Demonstrate to administrators and staff “how it works” and are instruments of attraction to the A.A. program
- ➔ Provide information about A.A., as well as literature and guidelines for setting up A.A. meetings in treatment facilities and outpatient settings

Resources:

- ➔ www.aa.org/treatment-committees
 - ➔ Workbook (M-40i)
 - ➔ Committee Kit (F-167w)



DISTRICT 7 SERVICE COMMITTEES

→ Website Chairperson

Importance for District 7:

- Maintains the A.A. Group meetings schedules
- Updates our upcoming District 7 Meetings
- Adds important links and service events onto the website
- Adds reference materials related to service

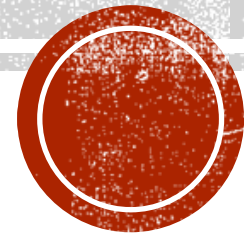
Resources

- A.A. Twelve Traditions
- Anonymity Online and Digital Media: www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/smf-197_en.pdf
- A.A. Terms Of Use: www.aa.org/terms-of-use
- A.A. Guidelines on Internet: www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/mg-18_internet.pdf
- FAQs A.A. websites: www.aa.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-aa-websites



DISTRICT 7

SERVING THE A.A. HOME GROUPS



SERVING THE A.A. GROUPS

Group Inventories

“Many groups periodically hold a “group inventory meeting” to evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose: to help alcoholics recover through A.A.’s suggested Twelve Steps of recovery. Some groups take inventory by examining our Twelve Traditions, one at a time, to determine how well they are living up to these principles.”

- The A.A. Group...where it all begins (Pamphlet P-16)

Your District Committee Member (DCM) and Alternate DCM are willing to help:

1. Prepare your Home Group for an Inventory
2. Moderate the Inventory
3. Offer ideas of possible next steps with the inventory results



SERVING THE A.A. GROUPS

Service Workshops

- Workshops can help with our understanding and effectiveness in carrying the message of A.A., can enhance the unity in the Home Group, and support being of service in other methods and areas of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Example Topics/Ideas:

↳ A.A. - Three Legacies	↳ 12 Traditions
↳ Service Committees	↳ Our Service Structure
↳ The A.A. Home Group	↳ Group Inventories
↳ Problems other than Alcoholic	↳ Carrying the A.A. Message
↳ 12 Concepts	↳ Leadership in A.A.: Ever A Vital Need

☀ If your Home Group has a different topic or a specific Pamphlet in mind for a workshop, let us know!



SERVING THE A.A. GROUPS

District 7 Website (swtadistrict7aa.org):

- ➔ Upcoming District Meetings
- ➔ Upcoming Service Events/Links for District, Area 68 and Southwest Region
- ➔ Links to useful documents and websites to help in service
- ➔ A.A. Meeting Lists
- ➔ Up to date addresses for where sending Group Contributions

We are open for feedback in how best to further make the website useful for service!

District Meetings

"At district meetings, you join with G.S.R.s from other groups. Perhaps you've already worked with an intergroup or central office, where groups band together to help alcoholics just in your locality. But your general service district is the second link in an entirely different chain, which extends much farther. Your district is one part of a general service area. With your fellow G.S.R.s, you elect a district committee member, and all the D.C.M.s make up the area committee. Now, do you just sit back and let your D.C.M. take it from there? No! G.S.R.s stay very much in action in each of the 93 areas in the U.S. and Canada."

Reprinted from *General Service Representative*, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

District 7 meetings are generally held the third Saturday of certain months:

- Meeting locations rotate throughout the groups served in District 7
- Meeting generally takes place from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

2024

January 27
GSR & District Services Orientation
[Download Flyer](#)

Grace Episcopal Church

102 E Live Oak St.
Cuero, TX. 77954

February 17

Need Host Group

Pending Address

March - No District Meeting: Southwest Texas Area (SWTA 68) Pre General Service Conference (GSC) Assembly

Resources

District 7 Policies and Procedures [Click Here to View/Download](#)

We Are Here to Help! [Download Flyer](#)

News and Announcements on AA.org: [View "What's New"](#)

Box 4-5-9: [View Latest Issue and Register](#)

General Service Representative (G.S.R.)

- > [Welcome to District 7 Letter \(2024-2025\)](#)
- > [GSR Report Ideas at District](#)
- > [GSR Report Ideas at Home Groups](#)
- > [G.S.R. General Service Representative](#)
- > [Digital G.S.R. Kit Contents](#)
- > [Group_GSR Change Form \(Rev. 03.2022\)](#)

AA.org Resources for all A.A. Members

- > [The A.A. Group... where it all begins](#)
- > [The Twelve Traditions Illustrated](#)
- > [The Twelve Concepts Illustrated](#)
- > [The A.A. Service Manual Twelve Concepts](#)

Service Committees on aa.org

- > [Accessibilities](#)
- > [Archives](#)
- > [Cooperation with the Professional Community](#)
- > [Corrections](#)
- > [Literature](#)
- > [Public Information](#)
- > [Treatment](#)
- > [Remote Communities](#)

Service Workshops and Events

District 7 - Orientation

Date: January 27, 2024

Time: 9:30am

Location: Grace Episcopal Church

Address: 102 E Live Oak St. Cuero, TX. 77954

[Download Flyer](#)

Corrections Conference (CFC) - Southwest TX Area (SWTA 68)

Date: February 2-4 2024

Location: Bastrop, Texas

Visit Website: [SWTA 68 Events](#)

[Download Flyer](#) [English](#) [Spanish](#)

Pre General Service Conference Assembly - Southwest TX Area (SWTA 68)

Date: March 15th - 17th 2024

Location: Mission, Texas

Visit Website: [SWTA 68 Events](#)

[Download Flyer/Agenda](#) [English](#) [Spanish](#)

Public Information (PI) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Workshop - Southwest TX Area (SWTA 68)

Date: August 9th - 10th 2024

Location: Round Rock, Texas

SERVING THE A.A. GROUPS



swtadistrict7aa.org

DISTRICT 7 GROUPS/CITIES

- ✦ Back To Basics
- ✦ Burning Desire
- ✦ Edna
- ✦ Flatonia
- ✦ For Sinners Only
- ✦ Golden Slippers
- ✦ Goliad Open Arms
- ✦ Hallettsville
- ✦ High Nooners
- ✦ Hope Group
- ✦ Karnes City
- ✦ Main Stream
- ✦ Moulton
- ✦ North Loop
- ✦ Palacios
- ✦ Port Lavaca
- ✦ Port O'Connor
- ✦ Seadrift
- ✦ Shiner
- ✦ Yoakum
- ✦ Yorktown
- ✦ Unity
- ✦ Victoria Women's

A.A. DISTRICT 7
Saturday, Month Date, Year, 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Location: Group Name - Address

MEETING AGENDA

9:30am	Open Meeting: Group GSR (____ Group) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serenity Prayer & "Why Do We Need a Conference?"
9:35am	Attendee Introductions
9:40am	Information Session – 3 minutes each <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tradition/Concept, Spotlight Service Committee or Literature
9:50am	Month Minutes: Corrections and/or Motion to Approve
9:55am	Treasurer Report(s): Month(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections and/or Motion to Approve
10:05 am	<u>Looking Forward, Actions Taken, Service Opportunities</u> DCM Report Alt DCM Report
10:20am	GSR Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSR Service Questions/Group Service Events/Projects? • Questions on upcoming District / Area Service activities? • Group Related Inquiry for shared experience from other GSRs? • How can District 7 help you (GSR/Alt) & your Home Group?
10:30am	10 min Break
10:40am	GSR Reports (continued)
11:00am	Committee Chairs (Brief Actions Taken and Service Opportunities) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TS Name: Committee Name • TS Name: Committee Name
11:10am	Voting Members: GSRs (or Alts), District Officers, Committee Chairs Unfinished Business: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open Service Positions - Committee Chairs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grapevine/La Viña, Intergroup Liaison, Treatment, Corrections and Website New Business: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ?? Motion 2. ?? Discussion
Upcoming Meetings	Host Group(s): Month Day: Group Name Month Day: Group Name
Close	Host GSR Choice: Responsibility Statement or Declaration of Unity

Sources of information to consider when Informing Groups:

- ✦ G.S.O. Quarterly Newsletter Box 4-5-9 www.aa.org/box-459
- ✦ Service Events and Area Assemblies www.aa-swta.org/events
- ✦ District Service Reports and Events Sharing during District meetings and e-mail
- ✦ "What's New" page on the aa.org website www.aa.org/news-and-announcements
- ✦ Annual General Service Conference Final Report www.aa-swta.org/delegates-report/
- ✦ Quarterly Report of the General Service Board www.aa.org/quarterly-reports-from-gso
- ✦ Newsletters from South West TX Area 68 [Sent via e-mail and in print at Area Assemblies](#)
- ✦ News for Coastal Bend Intergroup Assoc www.cbiaa.org

WHY DO WE NEED A CONFERENCE?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairman of our board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting:

"We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effects of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

"We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

- "The A.A. Service Manual..." (Pg 40 – 2021-2023 Ed)

A.A. Responsibility Statement

I AM RESPONSIBLE, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, **I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our **common welfare first**; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

Sample Agenda District 7 Meeting



WHAT DOES A GSR REPORT?

At the Group

- District and Area Service Activities
- Service Committee Opportunities
- Motions for District Meetings and Area Assemblies
- General Service Conference (GSC) Agenda Items
- Delegate Report Back

At the District

- Group Service Events
- Group Concerns/Ideas for shared experience
- Changes for Meeting schedule updates
- The Group conscience on matters to be voted on at the District Meetings and Area Assemblies
- Group requests for service related workshops

Sources of information for GSRs to consider when Informing Groups:

➔ G.S.O. Quarterly Newsletter Box 4-5-9	www.aa.org/box-459
➔ Service Events, Assemblies & Delegate Reports	https://www.aa-swta.org
➔ District Service Reports	Sharing during District meetings and minutes via e-mail
➔ “What’s New” page on the aa.org website	www.aa.org/news-and-announcements
➔ Annual General Service Conference Final Report	https://www.aa-swta.org/delegates-report/
➔ Quarterly Report of the General Service Board	www.aa.org/quarterly-reports-from-gso
➔ Quarterly Newsletters for SWTA 68	Sent via e-mail and provided at Assemblies
➔ Grapevine E-mails/Newsletter (Subscribe)	https://www.aagrapevine.org/gvr-resources
➔ News for your local Intergroup/ Central Office	https://www.cbiala.org/



WHAT DOES A GSR REPORT?

Intended to be a Sample Only: Possible topics for GSRs to use when reporting at a Group Business Meetings. Details of reports will change as events/actions occur during the year

At the Group

General Service Conference (GSC):

- General service conference coming up? What are a few of the Agenda items you believe your Home Group will be interested in reviewing?
- Has your group set a time to discuss a few of the upcoming agenda items?
- Did the conference just occur? What are some highlights/results from the conference your group will be interested in hearing?

Regional Events:

- Is there a forum or regional assembly coming up that you can invite the home group members to attend?

General Service Office, General Service Board, A.A. World Service, A.A. Grapevine/A.A. La Viña:

- Anything new on aa.org website? Recent Box 459 Newsletter or GSO Quarterly Report?
- Anything new on aagrapevine.org or aalavina.org websites?
- Any new literature revised or newly published?
- Any call for new stories – pamphlets or audio?

Southwest Texas Area 68:

- Recent Area Newsletter that you can post/share?
- Area assembly coming up that you will need to advise on reimbursement of expenses?
- Just returned from an Area assembly, what information do you have to report?
- Any Area motions to discuss?
- How are the Area finances?
- Open Area service positions? When will the election be held? How to stand?
- Any Area workshops, conferences or events to announce? Dates? How to register?

District 7:

- What happened at the last District meeting? News to report? Motions to discuss?
- Any new Service opportunities in carrying the A.A. message?
- How are District finances?
- Open service positions at the district? How does someone stand for the position?
- Any District workshops or events to announce?

Home Group:

- Is it time to discuss holding a group inventory?
- Maybe give a small Tradition presentation on the Tradition of the month.
- Has your Alt GSR been accompanying you to assembly, district meetings or other events? Maybe give them a couple of minutes to share on their personal experience?
- Has a trusted servant in the group gone above and beyond and you would like to thank them for helping or for their service?
- Any Group concerns that you may be able to help with?
- Does your group need some service literature you would like to propose?
- Does your group want a service type workshop that the District can provide?
- Can your home group host a District meeting or a District Workshop?



WHAT DOES A GSR REPORT?

Intended to be a Sample Only: General questions for GSRs to use when reporting at District Meetings. Details of reports will change as events/actions occur during the year

At the District

- ? Did your Home Group make any major decisions or changes at a recent business meeting? Or an important decision coming to a vote at a future Business Meeting?
- ? Does your Home Group have any special events coming up or flyers to distribute?
- ? Is your Home Group planning a group inventory? Or recently held a group inventory?
- ? Has your group recently experienced any major challenge you may want to share with the district - to ask for how other groups may have resolved this issue? (Abstain from any specifics that would negatively identify individuals.)
- ? Share information about how your group walked through a concern/problem using the Steps, Traditions and/or Concepts?
- ? Does the Group want the District to present on a specific service topic at an upcoming business meeting or hold a workshop the District can help with?
- ? Has your Home Group recently implemented a new service position, updated any group guidelines, changed meeting formats?
- ? Has your Home Group recently changed or adjusted the contribution distribution percentages?
- ? Has your Home Group changed any days, times or locations of our meetings lately?
- ? Planning on attending upcoming District or Area service Events?
- ? Recently attended a District or Area service event? Share briefly on 1 or 2 items that caught your attention, that you have questions on or that you brought back to your group.
- ? As the GSR, do you have any questions of your position that you would like additional information and/or understanding?



Southwest Tx Area (SWTA 68)

- **Winter Workshop** (*held January 12-14*)
- **Corrections Conference (CFC)**
Date: February 2-4 2024
Location: Bastrop, Texas
- **Pre General Service Conference Assembly**
Date: March 15-17 2024
Location: McAllen, Texas
- **Summer Workshop/Delegate Report Back**
Date: Usually held in July
Location: San Antonio, Texas
- **Public Information (PI) / Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)**
Date: August 9-10 2024
Location: Round Rock, Texas
- **Fall Conference**
Date: October 4-6 2024
Location: Victoria , Texas

Southwest Regional A.A. Service Assembly

SWRAASA

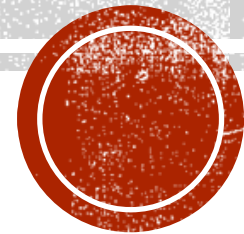
Date: October 11-13 2024
Location: Richardson, Texas
Visit Website: SWRAASA2024.org
Download Flyer: [English](#) [Spanish](#)

District 7

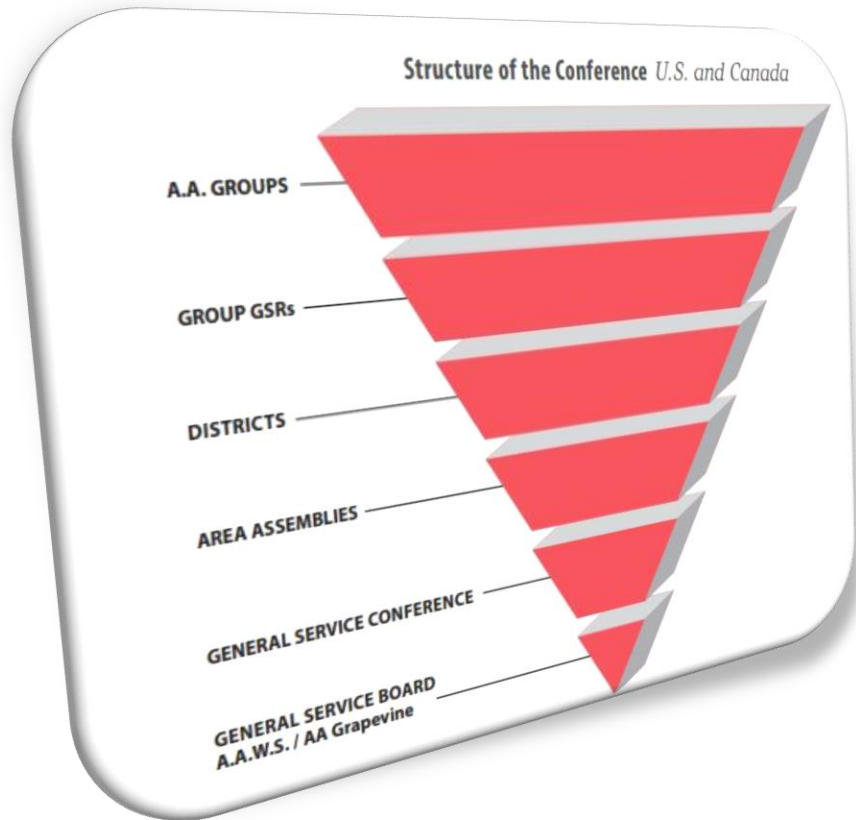
- **February District Meeting:** Final Agenda Items for 74th General Service Conference (“GSC”) – Specific items to be reviewed at Area Assembly per Delegate indication, Area Business Motions, Importance Pre-GSC Assembly
- **April District Meeting:** Review Hosting October Area Fall Conference (Need Committee Chairperson)
- **May District Meeting:** Importance of Area Summer Workshop/Delegate Report Back
- **June District Meeting:** Introduce upcoming District Inventory & importance, open floor for questions on process of the District Inventory, Release District Inventory Questions
- **July:** District 7 Local Workshop (pending)
- **August District Meeting:** Perform District Inventory
- **September District Meeting:** Local Delegate Report, Importance of Area Fall Assembly and Conference, review any Area Business Motions)
- **October:** No Meeting - District 7 - Hosts Fall Conference – all hands on deck! Release initial Ad Hoc Comm Inventory recommendations
- **November District Meeting:** Review inventory Ad Hoc Comm recommendations and suggested changes
- **December District Meeting:** 2025 Calendar



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



Summary



✓ A.A. Members

- ↳ Experience all of A.A.
- ↳ Get involved in service
- ↳ Support your Home Group and GSR

✓ GSRs

- ↳ Prepare
- ↳ Gather Home Group Input
- ↳ Show Up
- ↳ Ask Questions
- ↳ Voice Home Group Support/Concerns
- ↳ Vote
- ↳ Report back to Home Group

Have Fun, Enjoy, and Get To Know Others in Service!

