

Welcome To District 7

You and your A.A. Home group are welcome, wanted and needed!

The first page of this welcome letter is for quick references. The pages that follow are more detailed and we hope you will read through and ask any questions you may have at any time.

You should receive your General Service Representative (G.S.R.) kit in the mail from the General Service Office in 6-8 weeks from submitting the GSR Change Form. If you do not receive it by then, please let us know and we will follow up with the Area Registrar.

[Group GSR Information Change Form](#)

If you are unsure of your Home Group number, we can look it up for you. Your Home Group is located in District 7 of the Southwest Texas Area 68.

Important Dates when serving as a GSR:

- District 7 Business meetings are typically held on the third Saturday at 9:30am. This meeting may be up to 2 hours long. The months District 7 typically does not hold the normal District meetings: January, March, July and October (*subject to change - actual months depend on the Area 68 Assemblies*).
- Southwest Texas Area 68 (SWTA) Assemblies are held 4 times a year; normally in January, March, July and October. These are weekend events; typically starting around Friday 6pm, all day Saturday, and Sunday until 12noon. Assemblies are held somewhere in the SW Texas Area. (*subject to change - actual months are set yearly by the Area Committee and the Host District*).

Attending both District Meetings and Area Assemblies are a vital function of the GSR role.

Quick Resources:

- GSR Digital Kit: <https://www.aa.org/contents-general-service-representative-gsr-kit-list>
- District 7 Website: <http://swtadistrict7aa.org/>
- Southwest TX Area 68 Website: <https://www.aa-swta.org/>
- A.A. World Services Website: <https://www.aa.org/>

You do not have to do this alone! Your District Committee Member (“DCM”) and Alt DCM are here to help you in the GSR role. There are often past DCMs and other knowledgeable A.A. members willing to offer support as well.

PLEASE do not hesitate to reach out and ask for help. We WANT to help you succeed in your new role as GSR and learning about how to represent your A.A. Home Group.

Thank you for your willingness to serve in and for Alcoholics Anonymous.

DCM: Tahtianna F.

☎ 214.683.1381

💻 District7@aa-swta.org

Alt DCM: Joe C.

☎ 832.606.4694

💻 speargunner2@gmail.com

For individuals considering or new in serving as a GSR

- ☞ **Active membership** in your A.A. Home group is important.
- ☞ A G.S.R. **should hold no other service positions in any other group.**

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

GSR Service Term?

The two-year terms of a G.S.R. coincide with those of its D.C.M.s and Conference delegate. *Our rotation starts on even years in the SW Texas Area 68, with elections held in odd years.*

A group usually elects its G.S.R. before the fall assembly meeting (October) at which the delegate is elected.

- September is a good month, since this gives the new G.S.R. time to review the responsibilities of the service position before the start of the year serving, starting on January 1, along with the new D.C.M.s and the new Delegate.
- An informed group enjoys a special election meeting, where a member with a solid background in service explains the role and importance of the G.S.R.

Why have a GSR?

Concept I: *The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.*

- ☞ As a GSR, you are **THE** link of your home group to the whole of A.A. – an important responsibility within our structure.
- ☞ You **transmit the voice of your groups' conscience** which becomes a part of “the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship,” as expressed in the General Service Conference. Like everything else in A.A., it works through a series of simple steps.

[Ideas for a GSR: Reporting to your AA Home Group](#)

From our A.A. Service Manual:

- ☞ When the **GSR is present** at assemblies and district meetings, the group's voice is heard.
- ☞ When the **GSR participates**, the group's voice is heard.
- ☞ When the **GSR votes**, the group's voice is heard.

[The A.A. Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service](#)

When?

1. Attending **District meetings**, you join with other G.S.R.s from your district.
 - Meetings held on the third Saturday of the month for approximately 2 hours.
 - Please try to prepare your GSR report ahead of time. If you are able to make an extra copy for our Secretary and DCM, or submit via e-mail, this will be much appreciated.

Ideas for a GSR: Reporting at a District Meeting

2. Attend **Area Assemblies** four times a year. **Each Area Assembly has a different focus:**

Service Workshop (typically held in January); GSR and DCM workshops; you also get to attend mini workshops on the various service committees such as: Accessibilities, Archives, Cooperation w/ Professional Community, Corrections, Treatment, Public Information, Grapevine/La Viña, and more. These workshops provide useful information on how to coordinate twelfth step work and better carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Pre-General Service Conference Assembly (typically held in March or April); where the upcoming General Service Conference agenda items are discussed and our Delegate hears the voice of local AA through the GSRs and DCMs. This supports our delegate in being prepared to represent our voice at the annual General Service Conference (GSC). Detailed information is provided so that the groups may be part of AA as a whole. Area Business/Voting on motions may be heard at this assembly.

The Post-Conference Assembly and Summer Workshop (typically held in July); where our Delegate reports to us on what happened at the annual General Service Conference (GSC). GSRs then take the information back to share with their group. This assembly also has a GSR workshop and holds workshops on the Service Committees such as: Accessibilities, Archives, Cooperation w/ Professional Community, Corrections, Treatment, Hospitals, Public Information, Grapevine/La Viña, and more. In odd years, the Area Inventory is also held during this assembly.

Area Elections/Business and Conference (typically held in October); in odd years is the Election Assembly; where we elect our area delegate, alternate delegate, area officers and service committee chairs serving the next 2 years. In General Service, when the term of our service position ends, we don't Rotate out, instead we rotate on! Area Business/Voting on motions may be heard at this assembly. The area also supports a Conference during this Assembly.

“The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the group and with the general service representative (G.S.R.) the group elects. We cannot emphasize too strongly the G.S.R.'s importance.”
- Bill W.

Additional Resources:

[District 7 Policies and Procedures](#)
[SWTA 68 Service Structure and Procedures](#)
[SWTA 68 Pamphlet](#)