

Ask-It-Basket Questions and Answers

- 1. If a longtime Al-Anon member wishes to give a donation to their home group in their will, can they and would they need a lawyer to draw up a special paper?**

The procedure in the service manual (pgs. 104-105) talks about bequests to WSO directly. As an area we cannot comment on legal matters as there is no known precedent to giving a bequest to an area, district or group at our level.

Our delegate, Brian Mac., stated he would ask about this at the World Service level.

- 2. What does the Adult Child Coordinator do?**

The prime directive for this position is to enhance the unity among the Al-Anon Family Groups. The Adult Child Coordinator will accomplish this by encouraging Al-Anon Adult Children Family Groups to participate more fully within Al-Anon and by acting as a liaison between Adult Children Groups and Al-Anon/Alateen as a whole.

See <https://www.sk-alanon.ca> for more detailed information, click on members, area position guidelines and descriptions, area position descriptions, area adult children coordinator.

- 3. Our district pays over \$70.00/mo. for the district phone. We have months with no calls at all and others with 1 or 2 calls; therefore, the cost to our local district averages about \$100.00 per call. This is not financially sustainable for our district. We are wondering what other districts are doing to enhance their accessibility to those seeking help. Ideas, thoughts, suggestions welcome.**

One district had a member donate a cell phone and they gave him an honorarium to use it. Then they searched around to different providers for the cheapest deal. They had to pay an additional cost to have it listed.

Another said that there is a plan you can get that you only pay for calls coming in.

There is also pre -paid plans you can purchase.

4. Concerning many family members and friends who have addictions including alcoholism; does Al-Anon welcome or speak to their inclusion in our program.

Suggested Al-Anon Preamble to the Twelve Steps (pg.11), Paragraph 1 – The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope in order to solve their common problems. We believe alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery.

Tradition 3 (pg 13/14) – The relatives of alcoholics, when gathered together for mutual aid, may call themselves an Al-Anon Family Group, provided that, as a group they have no other affiliation. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or a friend.

Alanon.org/newcomers/faq

FAQ – My friend/loved one is a drug addict. Can I go to an Al-Anon Meeting?

The primary purpose of Al-Anon is to provide support to the friends and families of alcoholics. In a recent membership survey 35% of our members said they joined our program because of a loved one's drug addiction and their lives had improved since attending meetings.

There is another program, Nar-Anon, which is for people affected by a loved one's drug addiction. You can visit their web site here: Nar-Anon.org. You are also welcome to try Al-Anon meetings, then decide if the Al-Anon program might be helpful to you.

5. What is the Policy of Area 89 for people whose expenses are already covered by assembly, but also attend as a voting group rep. Should their group pay for half of their expenses such as registration fees, hotel, meals and mileage?? If there is no current policy or Motion, should there be?

We are trusted servants and self-supporting (tradition 7). As such our cost should be shared equally by both area and group.

6. Is it not a conflict of interest or a potential for double-headed management to have personal/owner of outside entities (i.e. literature depot personnel or webmaster) holding district/area positions?

The AIS/LDC personnel and the Webmaster are both outside entities. They both do not attend Committee or Assembly, and thus have neither voice or vote.

Page 85 of the 2026-29 Service Manual

“Any Al-Anon member who is gainfully employed in an Al-Anon service center does not serve as a volunteer in a policy-making position, such as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Assembly Officer or Coordinator, Delegate of WSO Volunteer”

The AIS/LDC Officer Manager is gainfully employed by the AIS/LDC, which is an Al-Anon service center, and thus cannot hold a position.

The Webmaster is not required to be a member of Al-Anon. The Webmaster is an individual who is a volunteer to the Area, who receives an honorarium to cover the Webmaster’s costs to do the job, such as a Zoom license. By definition the Webmaster is not gainfully employed by an Al-Anon service center, and therefore is able to hold a position. The Webmaster does not attend Committee or Assembly. If the Webmaster is an Al-Anon member, and in a position, that member would abstain from any motion or policy vote regarding the website and its content to prevent double-headed management.

7. Would it be possible that name tags include district position and where people are from as it would be helpful for first time Group Reps?

Motion 09/26 Brian Mac./Elisa P. To rescind motion 03/11 “That name tags for the assemblies be printed out in advance with full names unobstructed and name tags be available if members would like to make an alternate name tag,” to be replaced with, effective immediately, update committee guidelines to only display, first name and last initial on assembly name tags.

The first time GRs at Ask-It-Basket were asked their opinions on this question as they experienced their first assembly as well. They felt that having only the names on the name tags provided an opportunity for them to reach out to other attendees and ask questions to get to know people.

Participation is the key to your recovery. Getting out of your comfort zone is scary but the question is are you willing to go out and meet new people.

8. Is District 17 fulfilling the Links of Service?

Yes. District 17 is fulfilling the Links of Service by having all service positions at District level filled, by hosting the Zoom meetings at Assembly, by donating to Area and the Delegate Love Money and by participating at Committee. While it is not always possible to see everything District 17 does due to its nature as a Permanently

Electronic District, we participate fully in the conducting of the business of Al-Anon in Area 89.

- 9. For our Area 89 we have a Webmaster that manages our Website, we have a Web Coordinator. Any changes of Group Information is given to Alt. Delegate. Is it then given to Web Coordinator or Webmaster? Also does Alateen Coordinator contact Web Coordinator to have Group changes made or do they go to Webmaster?**

The Area Webmaster is responsible for all technical aspects of the Area Website. The Area Website Coordinator is responsible for all content of the Area Website EXCEPT for Al-Anon & Alateen Meetings. Changes to Area 89 Al-Anon Group Meetings go to Area Alternate Delegate who is responsible for making the changes on World Service Office Online Group Records. Changes to Area Alateen Group Meetings are sent to Area Alateen Coordinator who is responsible for making the changes on World Service Office Online Group Records. After making the Meeting Changes on WSO Online Group Records, both Alt. Delegate and Alateen Coordinator send Meeting Changes DIRECTLY to the Area Webmaster to be posted on Area Website under Meetings. Anon & Alateen Meeting Changes DO NOT go to the Website Coordinator.

All other Area Website Content needs to go to Website Coordinator before being posted. Al-Anon and Alateen Meeting information can be found on Area Website: sk-alanon.ca and on WSO website: al-anon.org.

- 10. In talking about diversity, should we be reaching out to First Nations, Metis and Newcomers to Canada?**

Service Manual, p.117-126, "Al-Anon must continue to grow if it is going to fulfill its primary purpose of reaching millions who need Al-Anon's help but who are not yet aware of the existence of our fellowship."

Al-Anon and Alateen information has been taken to Mental Health and Wellness in schools, on reserves, and at Casinos hosting such events. Together we can carry the message to those not yet aware of Al-Anon/Alateen, so let's begin to think of where can I – "Let It Begin With Me" – drop off some pamphlets or Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism booklets.