

AA NEWSLETTER



<u>WE HAVE A CHAIR FOR</u> <u>YOU RIGHT HERE</u>

"Our Twelfth Step — carrying the message — is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die.

Hence, 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.

Services include meeting places, hospital cooperation, and intergroup offices; they mean pamphlets, books, and good publicity of almost every description. They call for committees, delegates, trustees, and conferences.

And, not to be forgot- ten, they need voluntary money contributions from within the Fellowship."-A.A's Legacy of Service by Bill W.

Have you ever been to a meeting to find the door locked, coffee not brewed, chairs not set up, no show speaker? Have you noticed the eye rolls, or heard the huffing and puffing as people scramble to pick up the slack? This is a small example of small commitments that may affect an AA group. What if this sort of thing happened at the district level? The eye rolling, and



huffing and puffing occur exponentially, only it doesn't affect a small group of people-it affects a mass of people. And in some cases, it could really mean life or death.

Take this example for instance: What if you called the hotline because you needed to talk to someone or find a meeting?What if no one answered the call because no one was sharing a list of volunteers who were willing to help in that capacity? What if the bill for the answering service was never paid because no one was there to receive it?

You may be thinking this "no one" character should actually be a "somebody" and maybe....no....actually...that "somebody" should be YOU! Yes, YOU! You wonderful, caring, alcoholic that has found purpose in life and wants to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the next suffering individual reaching out for help! So, stop procrastinating or second guessing yourself and dive in! We need you more than ever.

District 11 has many open positions up for grabs including:

- Treasurer
- Answering Service Rep
- Events & Activities
- LCM East

Got questions? Want to sneak in and feel it out? Call your sponsor to discuss it, and contact any of us through the District 11 <u>websitedutchessaa.org</u> or download the Service Tool Kit app (yeah-they got an app for that) for a digital pocket version of the A.A Service Manual and lots of helpful service-related information.

Or, drop by our monthly Zoom meeting which occurs on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:15pm. Next one will be 3.2.2021 and I hope to see you there.

Zoom Meeting ID: 388 243 7722 Password: 845845

LITERATURE IN BULK TO REDUCE SHIPPING COSTS

Books are heavy. Books are necessary. District 11 is hoping to help

Calling for submissions!

Help this newsletter burst with interesting stuff by dropping us a line!

Please email your content to newsletter@dutchess.org

A.A STEP 2 "CAME to believe TWA POWER GREATER THAN OURSELVES could restore us to sanity."

A.A TRADITION 2

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.

A.A CONCEPT 2

"The <u>General Service</u> <u>Conference</u> of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs." groups with literature orders without breaking the bank in shipping costs. If you are considering ordering some literature for your group and would like to purchase them directly through District 11, please email our literature chair at <u>literature@dutchessaa.org</u>*

GSO ANNOUNCEMENT-FOLLOWING UP ON REQUESTS TO UPDATE AND ALTER WORDING IN "THE BIG BOOK"

Questionnaires were made available for AA's to fill out and return to their area delegate regarding varying topics to be brought up and discussed at the 70th General Service Conference held last May. One agenda item was "to consider whether proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large-print versions of the book of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, as well as workbook to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution."

A Literature subcommittee was formed after the Conference. "The committee noted continuing work on numerous items stemming from Advisory Actions in previous years and efforts to make current literature accessible in all possible formats. The committee formed two subcommittees, one to evaluate common solutions for agenda items submitted regarding plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous; a second to look into a meaningful process for updating the pamphlet 'A.A. for the Black/ AfricanAmerican Alcoholic.' "-August 2020 GSO Quarterly Report

A video reenactment of the presentation is available for viewing and is translated into Spanish and French. You can find a letter written from GSO to our Area Delegate in the Events tab at <u>www.aahmbny.org</u>. The letter has a link to the video.

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ALCOHOI

Alcoholics Anonymous

<u>COVID-19 AID FOR DISTRICT 11 AA</u> <u>GROUPS NOW AVAILABLE</u>

A fund using excess money in the treasury has been allocated for a Covid Relief Fund. The landing page of <u>dutchessaa.org</u> how has been redesigned to allow the form to be filled out for reimbursement to be easy.

District 11 (Dutchess County) service committee recognizes that times have been tough and wants to make sure groups in our area can continue to carry the message to the next alcoholic, so we have started a subcommittee to work on several special projects to help groups and individuals in our region. One of these project is is called the COVID Relief Fund.

Our district has put aside a set amount of money to help groups who need financial aid for grouprelated expenses. The opportunity for financial assistance is open to groups that are officially registered in District 11 to apply for a first round of financial aid. A maximum of \$50 per group for the first round of financial aid has been agreed on to make sure that help is available for the many groups that exist in the district.. There is the possibility of a second round, depending on how many groups apply for help.

These reimbursements are intended for group-related expenses, which could include:

- Zoom membership fees
- Cleaning supplies or PPE
- Thermometers
- Printed/laminated safety signage
- Rent money
- Literature/coins



Any group registered with GSO that is located within Dutchess County can apply online for this financial aid. A member or GSR will need to fill out our application with a group contact person's name, phone number, and email, as well as the official group name. You will also need to indicate how much you are requesting and what item(s) you intend to use the funds on.

Please help spread the word and announce the availability of financial aid to local groups in need during the AA-related announcements at any meetings in the district and state that all the info is on our Dutchess County AA website-www.dutchessaa.org.

If you are interested in joining the COVID Response Subcommittee, please contact <u>technology@dutchessaa.org</u> or attend our District 11 monthly business meeting on Zoom to find out more. Zoom Meeting ID: 388 243 7722 Password: 845845



MONTHLY GSR FORUM



You do not have to be a member of Area 48 to attend.

These monthly interactive forums are designed to promote unity and be the life line needed for GSRs new and old to bring topics of discussion, questions and their personal experience, strength and hope for anyone interested in learning more about Group Life, being a GSR and General Service.

"The strength of our whole AA service structure starts with the group and with the general service representative (GSR) the group elects. We cannot emphasize too strongly the GSR's importance."

For more information contact: hmbchair@aahmbny.org

Contact: grapevine@aahmbny.org

Tuesdays (second Tues. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm (eastern)

SAVE Mark your

FEBRUARY 2021