

Massachusetts AL-ANON—Assembly October 2025

Al-Anon and Money

PRESENTED BY: Sandy S.

with credit to Yukon, BC Al-Anon

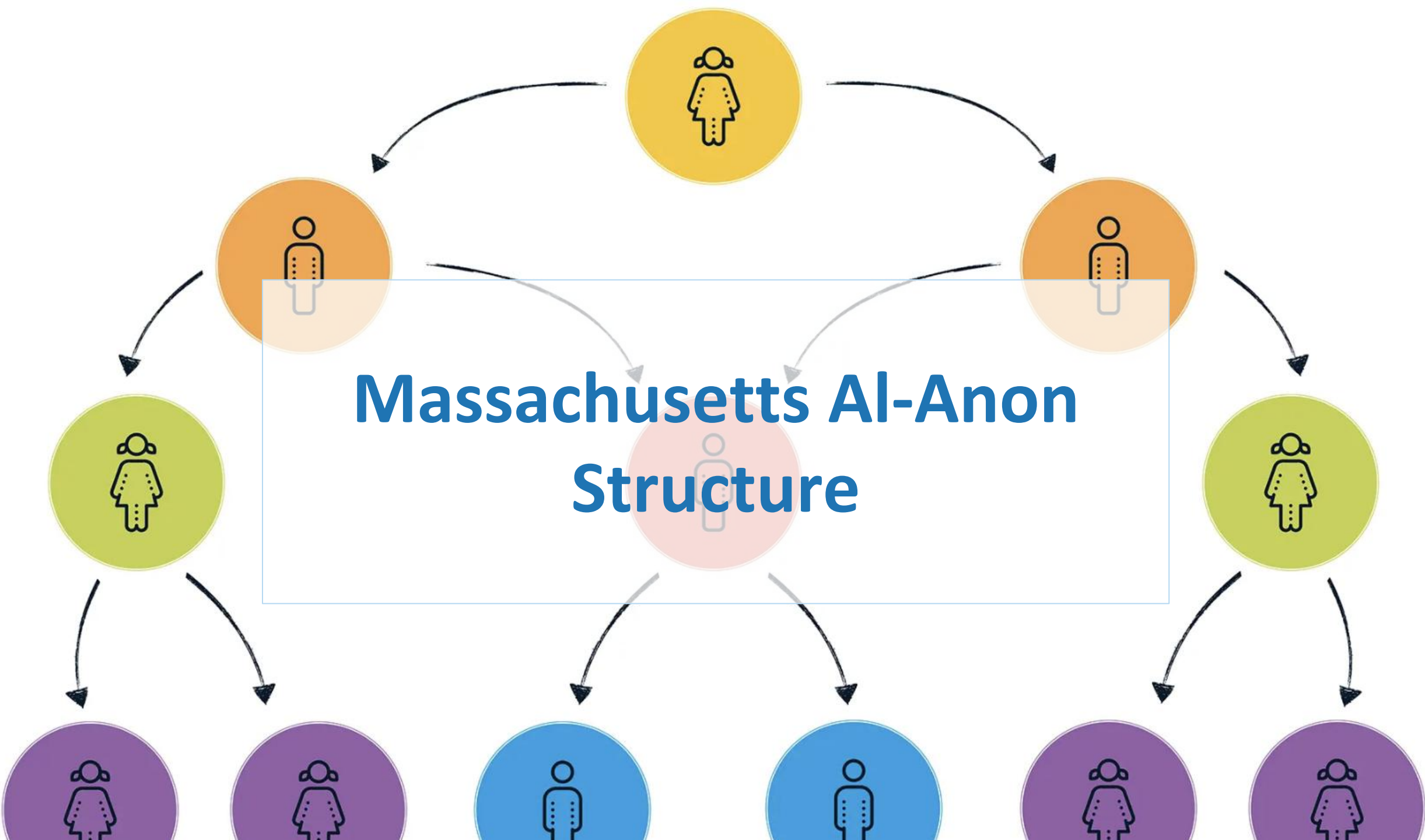
<https://www.bcyukon-al-anon.org/>

for their original presentation

Overview



- Al-Anon Structure
- Al-Anon Functions
- Al-Anon and Managing Money



Contributions and Self Support

Al-Anon's Tradition Seven

“Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

- Group Tradition 7 contributions are essential for Al Anon services
- Member contributions are the one source of income for all Al-Anon services

AI Anon Structure Massachusetts

~313 Member Groups/GR
(60 online only, 50 hybrid, 193 in-person and 11 Alateen)

~25
District/DR

1
AIS/LDC

1 MA Area

1 World
Service Office
(USA)

Al-Anon Structure Massachusetts

Member Groups/GR

Districts/DR

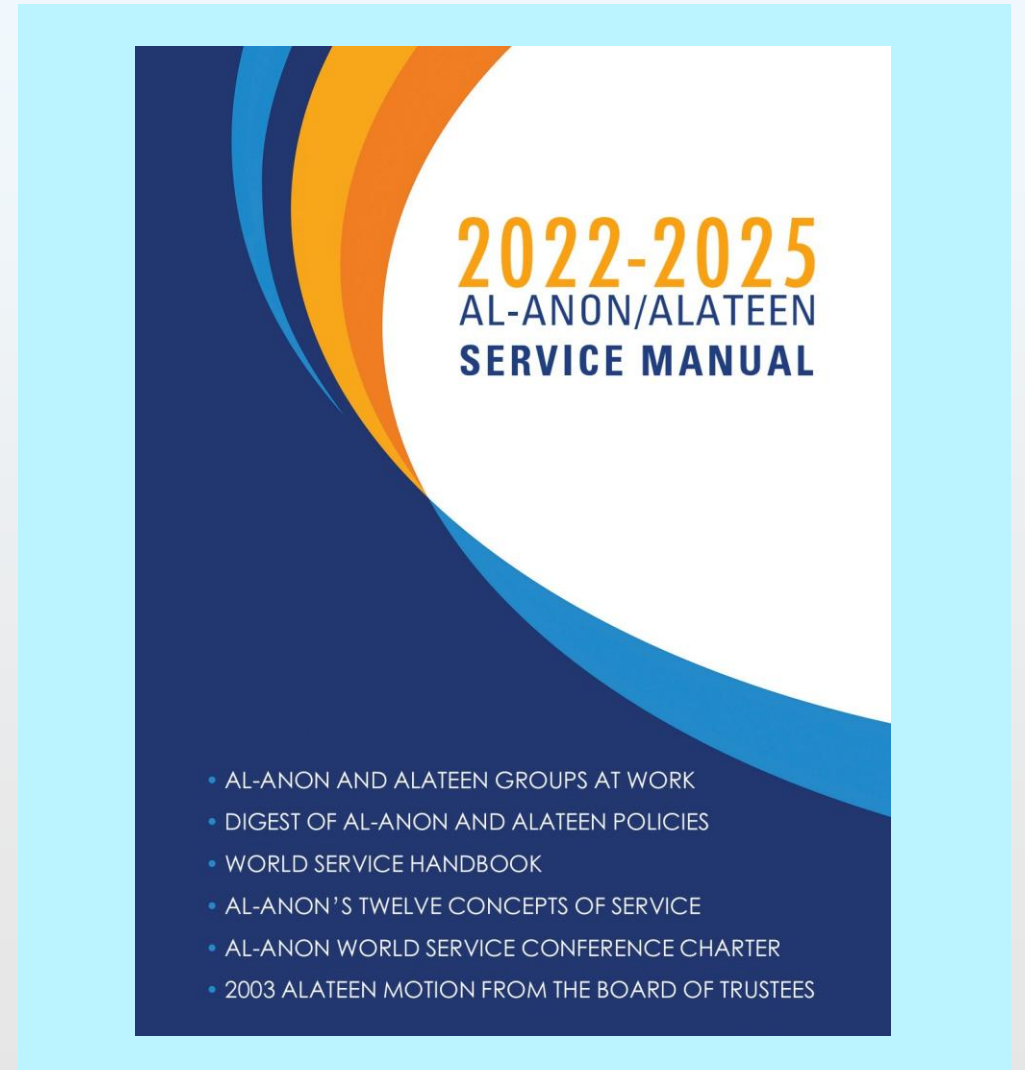
Al-Anon
Information
Services (AIS)

MA Area 25

World Service
Office

Al Anon Service Manual

Got a question about how Al-Anon operates? Find it in the current service manual.



Al-Anon Meeting Experience and Money

- Every Al-Anon meeting ends with:
 - A call for Tradition 7
 - Passing the basket
 - A list of where the funds go: District, AIS/Area, and WSO

How many members understand this announcement?

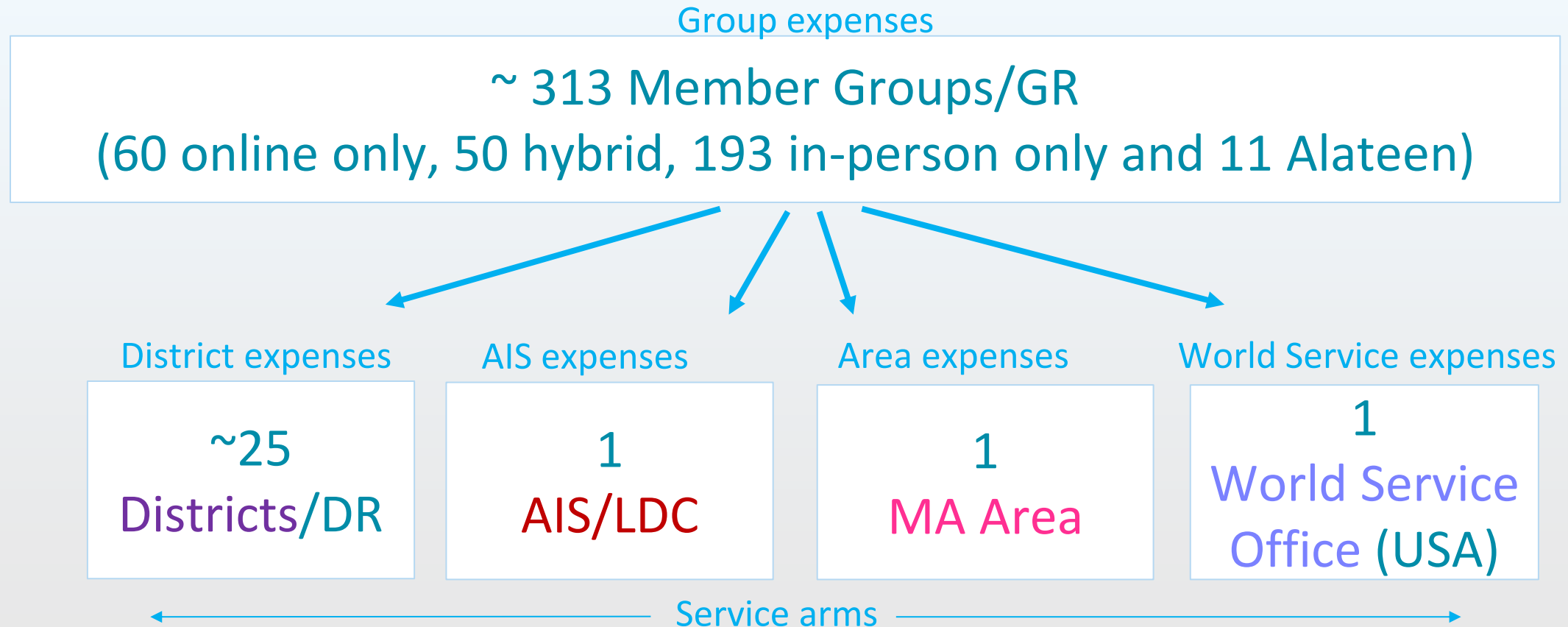


A high-angle photograph of a diverse group of five people (three men and two women) sitting around a white table in a meeting. They are looking at various documents, a laptop, and a tablet. The man in the center is pointing at a document. The woman on the right is looking at a tablet. The man on the left is writing on a document. The woman on the far right is looking at a document. The man on the far left is looking at a laptop. The table has several coffee cups, a clipboard, and some papers. The background is a plain wall with a chair leg visible.

What do all these Al-Anon service arms do?

(simplified version)

A Deeper Dive



Groups

Overarching responsibility:

- Maintaining healthy meetings

Primary financial responsibility:

- Collecting Tradition 7 contributions
- Remaining self-supporting

100% managed by volunteers

Expenses:

- Rent/Zoom subscription
- Bank fees and insurance
- Conference approved literature (CAL) (sold at cost)
- GR attendance at Assembly

Surplus to:

- District, AIS/Area, and WSO

Districts

Overarching responsibility:

- Supporting groups in their district to operate healthy meetings

Primary financial responsibility:

- Remaining self-supporting

100% managed by volunteers

Expenses:

- Zoom subscription
- Bank fees
- New meeting support/brochures for distribution
- DR expenses to AWSC
- Outreach
- Contribute to AMIAS background checks as needed
- **Surplus to:**
 - AIS/Area and WSO

AI-Anon Information Services (AIS/LDC) (Westborough)

Overarching responsibility:

- Supporting groups by selling CAL, keeping group records, communication and bulletin, etc.

Primary financial responsibility:

- Remaining self-supporting

Managed by staff & volunteers*

Expenses:

- Rent
- Insurance
- Bank fees
- CAL inventory
- Staff

Surplus to:

- Area and WSO

* Office/AIS employs staff x2.

Al-Anon Massachusetts Area

Overarching responsibility:

- Supporting groups in their Area

Primary financial responsibility:

- Remaining self-supporting

100% managed by volunteers

Expenses:

- Hosting Assembly
- Hosting AWSC Meetings
- Hosting an Officer & Coordinators meetings
- Office and Coordinator expenses, delegate to WSO
- Admin fees (website, banking, Bulletin, archives...)

Surplus to:

- WSO

Al-Anon World Service Office (WSO)

Overarching responsibility:

- Supporting groups, districts, AIS, and Areas (x68) across North America (including Puerto Rico and Bermuda)

Primary financial responsibility:

- Remaining self-supporting

Managed by 47 employees

Expenses:

- Member support
- Recovery and service tools
- Awareness
- Financial sustainability
- Global engagement

Al-Anon WSO

WSO Services

| Members | Recovery & Service Tools | Awareness | Financial Sustainability | Global Engagement |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers the toll-free meeting line in English, Spanish, and French • Supports all registered Al-Anon Family Groups by answering questions; maintaining group, meeting, and trusted servant records; and providing registration dates • Maintains the <i>Al-Anon Family Groups Mobile App</i>, selecting trilingual premium content • Performs thorough research and responds to members' questions regarding Conference Approved Literature (CAL) and <i>The Forum</i> • Supports Inmate Correspondence Service • Supports Alateen groups and encourages Al-Anon members to serve through their local process • Supports Al-Anon Information Service Centers (AISs), Literature Distribution Centers (LDCs), and combined AIS/LDCs (Intergroups) • Maintains the Al-Anon Family Groups archives • Coordinates the Al-Anon International Convention with A.A. participation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collects member sharings and edits, translates, designs, and publishes CAL • Prepares, edits, translates, designs, and distributes <i>The Forum</i>, <i>Le lien</i>, and <i>Al-Anon y Alateen en acción</i> magazines • Develops service tools to educate and support the membership • Builds, designs, translates, and distributes <i>In The Loop</i>, <i>Le Messenger</i>, and <i>En Contacto</i> • Facilitates, coordinates, translates, and publishes revisions to the <i>Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual</i> (P-24/27) • Processes international structure requests to translate CAL and coordinates reviews of translations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares, designs, translates, and distributes public outreach tools and service materials such as <i>Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA)</i> magazine • Creates public outreach campaigns, including public service announcements (PSAs), informs the media, and encourages member participation • Shares the Al-Anon message with professionals, including providing complimentary materials and attending professional conferences • Creates, designs, translates, and manages al-anon.org, blogs, podcasts, and social media pages • Conducts triennial membership surveys and a longitudinal study to assess the impacts of the Al-Anon program • Fosters cooperation with researchers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manages AFG, Inc. financial matters and operations • Receives and processes member, group, and service arm contributions • Manages inventory, processes, and distribution of literature orders for members, groups, and LDCs • Receives and processes magazine and <i>Mobile App</i> premium content subscriptions • Grants reprint permissions for CAL • Maintains and defends copyrights and trademarks • Implements the AFG, Inc. Strategic Plan • Recruits, grows, and retains Staff to support our primary purpose • Maintains AFG, Inc. systems, including the AFG Connects communication platform, Online Group Records, and the Online Store • Evaluates emerging technologies to determine benefits for AFG, Inc. and the fellowship • Prepares, translates, and publishes an Annual Report of AFG, Inc. activities and projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides leadership and support to trusted servants globally • Coordinates the World Service Conference (WSC) and produces the <i>WSC Summary</i> (P-46) • Coordinates the International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) and produces the IAGSM Summary • Supports Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) and facilitates the annual WSC Structure Alateen recertification process • Coordinates AFG, Inc. participation in international and Area events • Facilitates the AFG, Inc. Trustee and committee application process to ensure consistency in candidate selection • Supports World Service Office committees and trusted servants in executing oversight responsibilities |



**Managing Money
at Al-Anon**
(KISS)

Tradition 7 Contributors to Area?

- 313 active groups in the Area (60 online only, 50 hybrid and 193 in person only and 11 Alateen)

25 Districts

Is your group and district contributing?



Summary

- Massachusetts Tradition 7 contributions within Area 25 are not keeping pace with increasing costs



The background of the image is a dense, repeating pattern of yellow smiley face emojis (😊). The emojis are slightly blurred and overlap, creating a vibrant and positive visual texture. In the center, there is a semi-transparent white rectangular box containing the text.

**Abundance flows with
awareness**

What Action Can We Take?



- Educate our members—so members are aware of the needs
- Leverage public outreach to increase our membership
- When making donations to Al-Anon service arms, take into considerations their varying needs

A top-down view of several hands of different ethnicities and ages reaching towards the center of a wooden table. They are holding several interlocking puzzle pieces. The puzzle pieces are colored and feature various icons: a globe, gears, a lightbulb, a circular arrow, a bar chart, and a document with a checkmark. The background is a light-colored wooden surface with a prominent grain.

Workshop Questions

Break Into Working Groups

- Four per group
- Appoint a reporter to take notes and share with the bigger group

Option 1:

Strategize on how to educate members, using Al-Anon traditions (one to three great ideas)

Option 2:

Encourage review of expenses. Talk about finance-why?

- Report back to the big group in 10 minutes



Go back to your groups & District & talk about:

How do we ensure Al-Anon continues in some form?

How does excess creates potential for conflict?

How is your group/district involved in Outreach?

Does your group/district travel to quiet districts to further our primary purpose?