

## 4th Quarter 2018

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**The DA Focus** is the service newsletter published quarterly by the General Service Board (GSB) of D.A. It is available as a download from the official D.A. website at: [debtorsanonymous.org/share](http://debtorsanonymous.org/share)

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## What is Service?

Frequently, when the question “What is Service?” is asked, members close their ears and think about how they don’t ever want to get embroiled in politics. Although “politics” is an unavoidable aspect of any organization, service is an integral part of all Fellowships. Service includes leading a meeting, unlocking the door, and sponsoring a newcomer. Service is carrying the message, and it helps members maintain solvency to engage in doing service. Service is having a conversation about D.A. and taking literature to a professional you are acquainted with who deals with debtors. Service is carrying the message to debtors who are struggling in institutions. Service is done on every level and in large and small ways. The D.A. Manual of Service (DAMS) explains how D.A. groups, the World Service Conference, and the Debtors Anonymous General Service Board all work together to carry the message of recovery in D.A. to the still-suffering debtor.

The World Conference Committees and Caucuses look at the international aspects of their service area. Intergroups and meetings will often have the same committees, only they operate locally. Public Information (PI) and Hospital, Institutions and Prisons (HIP) are two examples of committees that can be formed at any level where there is an interest and a need. Although local groups are separate from the Conference, they work along the same guidelines and goals as the World Service Committees. At the Intergroup and group level their work may be in the neighborhood, the city, the state, or even the region. While Conference Committee service addresses what is needed for D.A. as a whole, service done at the local level is often the most likely service to reach the actual still-suffering debtor.

### Using literature to carry the message locally

There has been some confusion lately in D.A. about whether regional and local service committees are “working outside of the Conference structure.” The only Conference-structured activities are those done by the GSRs and ISRs who attend the Conference. Individuals and groups of D.A. members carrying the message in their local communities are also fully engaged in service. Supporting local and regional PI and HIP committees is something we can all do as D.A. members to help reach the still-suffering debtor.

There is a place in D.A. for local service material—pieces created on the local level. Many groups have developed pamphlets that include within them D.A.-copyrighted materials in order to help carry the message in their local community to professionals and potential members. It is necessary to obtain permission to excerpt part of a copyrighted piece or to reprint materials, and there is a procedure for this. It involves submitting a request to the

*(continued on page 6)*

# General Service Board Committee Reports

## GSB Audit and Legal Committee

For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the Legal and Audit Committees have been combined into one committee. This allows for the addition of a new committee without stretching the Board any thinner, as well as combining two committees with smaller and related work loads.

In the first quarter of this fiscal year, the Audit and Legal Committee has been busy with reviewing the tax return and financial review for last fiscal year in preparation for submittal of taxes in November. In addition, two new copyrights have been received due to the work of last year's Committee, and we are happy to announce that the whiteboard video and the new "Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous" have received protection from the U.S. Copyright office.

The Committee is currently reviewing literature that a regional public information committee has developed. They have some of their own pamphlets and would like permission for quotations of D.A. copyright materials in their literature. One of the Committee's main purposes is to review requests for permission to use the D.A. logo or to quote from D.A. literature. The Traditions are a guideline for such activities.

In addition, the Committee will be working on several projects this year including developing a sexual harassment policy for the Board of Trustees and reviewing other legal policies already in place for the Board.

## GSB Communications Committee (Com Com)

The GSB Communications Committee consists of Bill D. (Chair), Dayton L., Sarah V., and Tom B. Two of its primary objectives are to publish quarterly editions of *The DA Focus* newsletter and the *Ways & Means*

magazine. It has met that goal for the past year, effectively spreading the news about the Fellowship to more than 6,000 members. Having distributed a special international edition of *Ways & Means* with stories curated by the WSC International Caucus to the convocation at the 2018 World Service Conference in Minneapolis, ComCom is currently working with the WSC Business Debtors Anonymous Committee on an edition devoted to stories from business owners in the Fellowship.

The Communications Committee also works with other GSB and WSC committees to draft and distribute announcements for the eNews system of disseminating information to the Fellowship. Since the 2018 WSC, it has worked in tandem with GSB Information Technology in performing revisions to the D.A. website and updating information and literature as necessary. ComCom oversees the Fellowship-wide Calls hosted by Committees and Caucuses in which speakers share on a variety of D.A. topics. We have recently developed a new procedure for approving calls, creating announcements and 1-page flyers for members to print and distribute at local meetings, getting releases from speakers, and making the audio recordings available on the new podcast page on the D.A. website at [debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts](http://debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts).

The Committee members look forward to supporting the WSC in attaining its goals.

## GSB Conference Support Committee (CSC)

The Conference Support Committee is working to encourage Intergroups to bid to host the 2020 World Service Conference (WSC). All bids submitted by or before the deadline of 11:59 P.M. EST, February 15, 2019, will be considered. The early-to-mid August Conference draws approximately 80

to 100 D.A. members, and the service opportunities infuse local groups and members with renewed experience, strength, and hope. All bids and inquiries should be forwarded to [GSB@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:GSB@debtorsanonymous.org) by or before 11:59 P.M. EST, February 15, 2019.

New GSB Trustee Sarah V. is a welcome addition to the Committee as it continues reviewing the 2019 Spending Plan, 2019 Registration Packet, CSC Handbook, and Host Committee Manual, and helps plan for the upcoming 2019 World Service Conference in Los Angeles from August 7-11. All D.A. members are encouraged to attend Fellowship Day on Saturday, August 10, 2019. Conference registration details will be available in early 2019.

## GSB Finance Committee

The GSB Finance Committee is involved in creating the Income and Spending Plan, overseeing the bookkeeper and accountants, reporting financial information to the Fellowship, making recommendations on revenue, expenses, pricing, and cost of goods sold. To provide the D.A. Fellowship with examples of recent work completed by the committee (and the Board), we offer the following updates.

The Finance Committee budgeted a line item in the Income and Spending Plan, which was approved by the GSB to "Kindleize" our literature to sell on Amazon.

The Finance Committee reviewed and forwarded to the GSB the Year End Contribution Announcement from the WSC Resource Development Committee, which was approved for distribution by the GSB.

The Finance Committee continues to monitor income and spending, online contributions, and the prudent reserve on a monthly basis.

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# General Service Board Committee Reports

## An Important Message from the Debtors Anonymous General Service Board:

Over the last several years, expenses for the General Service Office, the Board, and other administrative requirements have increased, while contributions and literature sales have remained basically the same. This has resulted in a deficit, which the General Service Board has met by using a small portion of our prudent reserve for the past two years.

To avoid using more of our prudent reserve, the Board is asking all D.A. groups and individual D.A. members to **consider increasing contributions to Debtors Anonymous.**

Some D.A. members may not know that, in addition to putting funds in the basket at their D.A. meetings, they can

also make direct contributions to D.A. to help cover the expenses of the Fellowship as whole.

Any amount that fits into your spending plan is welcome. A contribution of even \$5 or \$10, made every month, can make a big difference.

Regarding Seventh Tradition contributions from groups, D.A. members can remind their Treasurers that their group's commitment to regular contributions is a part of their group's commitment to support the Fellowship.

**Thank you for your continued support.**

The General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous

**[www.debtorsanonymous.org/contribute](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/contribute)**

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The Finance Committee has developed action items for the committee to work on throughout the year, including improving our processes regarding our literature inventory, and educating the Fellowship on our finances, the deficit, and the importance of contributions.

We hope this report helps D.A. members understand the types of issues that the General Service Board addresses on behalf of the Fellowship.

## GSB Information Technology (Info Tech)

The GSB Information Technology committee consists of Bill D. (Chair), Jo Mc., and Tom B. We will soon send out an announcement for an ACM with IT expertise, which is much-needed. The committee has spent much of its time since the WSC revamping the D.A. website in order to make it more user-friendly. These efforts include successfully changing the order of the menus so that they are easily found on all devices. The team also added pages for audio podcasts of Fellowship-wide calls as well as an announcement page that will be helpful to all members, especially GSRs and ISRs.

Info Tech has also supported other committees in their work. It continues to work on refining the Debit Card Only contribution option on the website to ensure the greatest anonymity for all members. It has offered support to Literature Publications in the area of electronic publishing, specifically the Kindle digital version of *The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Debtors Anonymous*, which was published on October 30th. It has already begun the work on formatting *A Currency of Hope* for digital publication.

Info Tech supports the WSC Technology Committee in its endeavors to provide app-based contribution capability to members and a demographic survey of the Fellowship which was approved at the 2018 World Service Conference in Minneapolis. The committee members are looking forward to more projects that will support D.A.'s ability to extend a hand to the still-suffering debtor.

## GSB International Committee

The GSB International Committee is in a restructuring mode needing to re-write our committee's Statement of Purpose to better reflect how to help

the International D.A. Fellowship. In order to offer a structure going forward and with that new purpose in mind, we also intend to revise our Composition, Scope, & Procedure.

We plan to sponsor a Fellowship-wide Call with an international flair to extend D.A. Fellowship between U.S. members and international members.

## GSB Literature Translation and Licensing Committee

The Literature Translation and Licensing Committee is pleased to have one of our newest Trustees, Susan A., joining us to help with our work. We are now four people and about to send out the call for an ACM with licensing expertise (US based).

We continue to study the feasibility of printing/distribution of literature in local languages and countries around the world. Similarly we are researching the costs of formatting e-literature—with help from the wider Fellowship and our fellow GSB committees—and we are searching for a translation review agency that will meet D.A.'s needs. We are developing a spending and income plan for all the above work.

# General Service Board Committee Reports

## GSB Literature Publications (Lit Pub)

The GSB Literature Publications Committee is responsible for the creation, publication, revision, and reprinting of D.A. literature, including books, pamphlets, and other items such as bookmarks and newcomer packets. Together with the WSC Literature Committee, Lit Pub has been actively working on the development and production of a number of literature projects.

The new D.A. Conference-Approved pamphlet, the “The Twelve Promises of Debtors Anonymous,” is in the final stages of production. An eNews announcement will be sent to the Fellowship as soon as it is available for purchase from the General Service Office.

GSB Literature Services Committee, the editorial section of GSB Lit Pub, develops each piece of literature by selecting writers and participates throughout the entire development of each project. GSB Literature Services selected writers and is currently reviewing the early drafts of both the Basic Text of D.A. and the Step Study Guides for D.A. and B.D.A.

This year, there will be opportunities for the Fellowship to contribute to several literature projects. The WSC Literature Committee will soon be requesting submissions from members for the D.A. Meditation Book. Additionally, the GSB Literature Services Committee will be collecting stories to be considered for inclusion in the “Stories” sections of the D.A. Basic Text. Look for eNews announcements about both of these projects in the near future.

Translating existing D.A. literature into additional languages also remains a priority for the GSB. The GSB Literature Translation and Licensing Committee is coordinating all aspects of translation and licensing.

The Literature Publications Committee continues to explore options for electronic literature, such as eBooks. D.A.’s *Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts* has been formatted for an electronic version and we are happy to announce that it is currently available for purchase. We will be working on formatting other existing D.A. literature into electronic formats.

## GSB Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) facilitates the GSB’s long-term efforts to carry the message of recovery to suffering compulsive debtors around the world. It develops strategies and action plans to help D.A. remain a prosperous, effective Fellowship so that D.A. as a whole can fulfill its primary purpose. It works through the GSB to help all levels of D.A.—the GSB, the GSO, the World Service Conference, and the Fellowship—plan and work to establish a strong foundation for the future of D.A.

LRPC also plans and conducts four “Ask-the-GSB” phone forums during each conference year. In October 2018, we conducted a call to recap the 2018 WSC in Minneapolis. There will be three additional calls in 2018-2019: December 16 (D.A. Literature and Literature Translations update), March 24 (Sponsorship), June 9 (D.A. Finances).

As a new initiative this year, based on feedback from members of the fellowship, LRPC will host a series of four calls focusing on the Twelve Traditions. Each session will have three members speak on a Tradition. The first date was on November 18 (Traditions One, Two and Three), and future dates will be January 20 (Traditions Four, Five and Six), May 5 (Traditions Seven, Eight and Nine), and July 14 (Traditions Ten, Eleven

and Twelve).

The speaker portion of each call is recorded and will be archived and available as podcasts on the D.A. website. There will also be time reserved for those attending to ask questions or make comments. These calls provide an opportunity to hear the experience, strength, and hope of other members and to deepen our D.A. experience.

Over the past two years, an Ad Hoc Committee to study D.A.’s finances was convened by the GSB Chair. That Committee recommended that the LRPC create a new five-year plan for D.A. LRPC members have looked at the previous five-year plan created in 2009, noted the “lessons learned,” and are excited to have a fresh look forward. Development of this new five-year prospective strategic plan will be one of the main projects of LRPC over the 2018-2019 Conference year.

## GSB Nomination Committee (Nom Com)

The Nominations Committee (Nom Com) is concerned primarily with identifying, developing, and nominating potential trustee candidates to the D.A. GSB. Nom Com also facilitates the application process for Appointed Committee Members, who serve on GSB Committees.

Nom Com is pleased to welcome two new Class A (members of Debtors Anonymous) trustees: Sarah V. from Pennsylvania, USA, and Susan A. from New York, USA. They both joined the GSB in October of 2018. We would also like to welcome Tom B. from California, USA (Class A), and Mary Clare L. from Arizona, USA (Class B), who both joined the Board this past summer and attended the WSC in MN.

The GSB currently has three openings for Class A trustees. All five  
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# General Service Board Committee Reports

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of our Class B (non-debtor) trustee slots are currently filled.

Nom Com is also exploring a possible new service opportunity: Project Contributor. Committees of the General Service Board may choose to select one or more Project Contributors to serve on a short-term, time-limited basis on a specific assignment or project for a GSB committee.

Recovering D.A. members who have experience or expertise in a particular field, such as computer technology, literature development, or public relations, and who may be willing to serve on a specific project for the benefit of the Fellowship should look for eNews announcements regarding this service opportunity in the near future.

## GSB Office Committee

The Office Committee has started the year with a bang. They have assisted the IOC in getting the office painted, have worked to get a new part time employee hired at the office to assist the Office Manager, and worked with IOC to put shelving into the store room at the office during November.

The Office Committee recently welcomed a fourth member, Susan A., with her appointment as a new General Service Board Trustee. Susan had been on the IOC committee, so that transition seemed a good fit for both committees.

For the rest of the year, the Office Committee has big plans. With the addition of shelving in the storage area, the Committee will work with the Finance Committee to streamline the literature inventory process. This was a recommendation from D.A.'s accounting firm and we are working diligently to come up with a better, more accurate literature inventory process. In addition, the Committee is looking at practices within the office itself to

streamline duties which are currently cumbersome and duplicative. It was also discovered by a Board member who visited the office that there are several pieces of office equipment that are either broken or no longer functioning properly. The Committee will work on a process to bring the office up to speed with adequate equipment to do the best job it can for D.A. as a whole.

The Office Committee is always looking for volunteers in the Needham area who can assist the office with various projects. If you are interested in doing service at the office, contact Allan in the office at [office@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:office@debtorsanonymous.org) for more information.

## GSB Public Information Committee (GSB-PI)

The GSB Public Information Committee works closely with the WSC Public Information Committee to carry the message of D.A. to the outside world. The GSB Public Information Committee works with the media through the Media Contact Person (MCP), a position created in 2006;

creates tools; forwards requests; and ensures all communications follow the Traditions. To provide the D.A. Fellowship with examples of recent work completed by the committee (and the Board), we offer the following updates.

The PI Committee hosted a Fellowship-wide Call on October 13, 2018, on Media Contact Training, conducted by our Appointed Committee Member. The Media Contact Training was held earlier this year and was held again at the request of many members in both our GSB and WSC Public Information Committees.

The PI Committee is researching what PI handouts, posters, and Public Service Announcements exist, and what materials need to be updated.

The PI Committee is reviewing the Public Information Manual in cooperation with the WSC Public Information Committee to develop updates as needed.

We hope this report helps D.A. members understand the types of issues that the General Service Board addresses on behalf of the Fellowship.

Join the D.A. mailing list to receive e-News!

Just send your email address by text message:

Text **DARECOVERY** to **22828** to get started.

Message and data rates may apply. Text sign up only available in the U.S.

## Service-Related Articles from the GSB

*("What is Service" continued from page 1)*

General Service Board with a copy of the materials you wish to use and a description of how you will use it (a copy of the pamphlet or flyer you intend to use). The Board can then process the request, considering it in light of the Traditions, and can give permission along with the proper language for reprinting. Groups do this on a regular basis for use of the D.A. symbol as well as to reprint the Steps,

Promises, and other D.A. copyrighted materials. Requests can be sent to the Board through the General Service Office at [office@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:office@debtorsanonymous.org).

Service is many things to many people, and we send you our warmest good wishes as you trudge the road carrying the message to the still-suffering debtor; the solvent life is filled with unexpected rewards!

— The Debtors Anonymous General Service Board

## Copyrights — We Have Them, But We Haven't Always Cited Them Correctly!

Questions have arisen from time to time from members of the Fellowship concerning the copyright dates listed on our literature. As it turns out, there were some mistakes made on the part of the Board in how copyrights are noted, and it has caused some confusion.

When you obtain a copyright from the U.S. Copyright Office, it is issued on a certain date and it never changes unless you update the copyright because of significant changes to the literature. Over time, the literature that has been printed has had newer copyright dates printed on them based on the printing date — *and they have been incorrect!* Over the next couple of years as the Board reprints literature, you will begin to see materials that have earlier copyright dates. That does not mean that it is out-of-date literature. What it means is the Board is learning more about these facets of how copyright registration works. It means that we protected the literature right away, and now we are learning how to make the notations properly.

One more thing on copyright: any D.A. group, Intergroup, or other entity that wishes to quote D.A. literature or use the D.A. logo on a flyer or in a piece of local D.A. literature needs to get permission from the Board to use those materials. The reason is that with trademarks and copyright, if you don't protect it you lose it. These are the Fellowship's materials and we want you to use them to carry the message, but the Board has a duty to ensure that the materials are not used in a manner that would promote D.A. or lead to public controversy.

If you have any questions, contact the GSB Audit and

Legal Committee through the General Service Office ([office@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:office@debtorsanonymous.org)), and we can answer your specific questions.

— Michalene R., GSB Audit and Legal Committee Chair

### IMPORTANT LINKS

[debtorsanonymous.org/enews](https://debtorsanonymous.org/enews)

*Sign up for special email announcements from D.A.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/announcements](https://debtorsanonymous.org/announcements)

*Download single-page flyers to share at meetings.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/register](https://debtorsanonymous.org/register)

*Register your meeting annually for the D.A. website.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/free](https://debtorsanonymous.org/free)

*Download free literature for members & meetings.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/contribute](https://debtorsanonymous.org/contribute)

*Contribute to D.A. as a member and as a meeting to help publish literature and support the GSO.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/onlinecontribution](https://debtorsanonymous.org/onlinecontribution)

*U.S. members are able to contribute directly online.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts](https://debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts)

*Listen to free audio recordings of speaker shares.*

[debtorsanonymous.org/ebooks](https://debtorsanonymous.org/ebooks)

*Visit the official Author Page of Debtors Anonymous to purchase digital books.*

# World Service Conference Committee Reports

## WSC Business Debtors Anonymous Committee (BDA)

The Business Debtors Anonymous Committee is off to a great start this year. Committee members include Mary Jane W. (Chair), Bob D. (Board Liaison), Ed K (Vice Chair), Juhli (Treasurer), Michelle M. (Secretary), Carol M., Dianna, Roslyn, Amina, and Susan.

We have formed three subcommittees to carry out our three biggest objectives during the 2018-2019 service year.

The first subcommittee is working on compiling stories from members of Business Debtors Anonymous in our Debtors Anonymous Fellowship. Through a process of interviewing members, requesting submissions from members, and creating a flyer with a call-to-action to submit stories to the subcommittee, we intend to compile stories that will appear in the first edition of the *Ways and Means* magazine in January. The subcommittee will continue to gather stories with the intention of having enough stories to create literature specific for BDA meetings, such as a future edition of *A Currency of Hope* that is BDA-specific.

The second subcommittee is focusing on hosting three Fellowship-wide Calls to address BDA-specific issues. Each call will host three speakers who each share their experience, strength, and hope around BDA recovery. The subcommittee aims to have speakers from all over the globe on the Fellowship-wide Calls. The first call will be held on December 2, 2018, with a focus on Tools 7, 8 and 9.

The third subcommittee intends to work with the PI committee to create a BDA-specific public service announcement available to members.

In service,  
Mary Jane W., BDA Committee Chair

## WSC Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)

The Fellowship Communications Committee is delighted to kick off 2018-2019 with seven members (three returning from the previous year) and our Board Liaison. The Committee's theme for the the year is Building Support with Communication. On September 16th, the FCC had its first meeting since the World Service Conference. It was productive. On Sunday, October 28, FCC hosted their first Fellowship-wide Call of the Conference year with speakers sharing their experience, strength and hope on "The Magic of PRGs." The recording of the call is available on the D.A. website at [www.debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts)

Additionally, the Committee is focusing efforts on creating awareness and clarity around Group Sponsorship. Recently, the FCC unanimously agreed to change the name from Group Sponsorship to Sponsor-A-Group. Next steps about the name change are pending. FCC members will begin responding to Issues & Concerns. Lastly, the FCC will be focusing on podcast-related projects.

## WSC Hospitals, Institutions, & Prisons Committee (HIP)

The HIP Committee is composed of seven members and a Board Liaison. There are members from Los Angeles, Houston, Philadelphia, and New York City, aided by Jo Mc. who has over 30 years bringing A.A. into the federal prison system and is an invaluable asset to our committee.

1) The HIP Committee requested flood-damaged literature from the GSO to distribute to benefits offices, bankruptcy judges, homeless shelters, etc. Literature was recently received and plans made to distribute.

2) The Committee distributed a flyer "It's Cool to Be HIP" to GSR representatives at the WSC to bring back to their home groups and intergroups asking for HIP representatives at the local level. The Committee scheduled an international phone training for November 4th on how to use the new HIP Starter Kit. The Committee did an internal run-through to prepare for the call, with each member assigned to deliver part of the presentation. ComCom sent out an e-blast alerting members to the upcoming call. HIP members will recruit callers whom they have identified or who have self-identified as interested in becoming HIP reps.

3) HIP also fielded a number of emails from people asking for information:

A member in Phoenix, Arizona, got permission from the Programs Warden at the AZ State Prison to launch D.A. HIP will advise her.

A member wanted to know if D.A. had literature for hearing and visually impaired members. HIP investigated audio literature and will be in touch with two WSC representatives who are hearing- and visually-impaired for their input.

A HIP member recruited four people in Los Angeles who want to be HIP reps. One fellow was sent to a locked down facility to provide D.A. information.

A member who was facing incarceration for embezzlement was referred to another member who had served time for embezzlement and is now free who made contact via phone and email.

The Board Liaison alerted us to the fact that AARP reports that the bankruptcy rates for those 65 and older has tripled. HIP will work with the PI Committee and AARP.

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# World Service Conference Committee Reports

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Two HIP members have contacted the Edendale Branch Library and will bring a presentation and literature there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Seana A., HIP Committee Chair

## WSC Internal Office Committee (IOC)

Members for the 2018–2019 Program Year:

Paul M	Chair
Patricia T	Vice Chair & Treasurer
Susan A	Secretary
Michalene R	Board Liaison

Recommendations from 2018 World Service Conference:

1. The IOC strongly recommends that the GSB maintain the FY 2017-2018 funding level for the “Salary and Hourly Wages” line item in the Income and Spending Plan for FY 2018-2019 for the General Service Office (GSO) staff.

2. The IOC recommends that the General Service Board (GSB) consider increasing the number of staff to 2.0 FTE with appropriate qualifications such as 12-step experience and technical expertise.

3. The IOC recommends that the GSB establish a line item in the Income and Spending Plan to begin saving for an eventual relocation of the GSO.

4. The IOC recommends the installation of an additional telephone line at the GSO. One phone number will be used as the office business line and the other will be used to route calls from still suffering debtors to a network of trained volunteers. Estimated monthly cost is \$33.00.

Status of On-Going IOC Projects:

1. Physical Improvements to the General Service Office (GSO)

in Needham, MA. The painting of the interior walls at the GSO has been partially (approximately 75%) completed. The back room used for fulfilling literature orders was not painted because moving everything stored in that room was not possible before the painters arrived. The GSB has approved an amount of \$2,000.00 for shelving for the 2018-2019 program year. We will submit a supplementary spending plan to augment the \$2,000.00 commitment by the GSB to be used to add to the planned shelving installation at the GSO. This supplementary spending plan will request to use funds from the GSB’s \$3,000.00 annual reserve for major committee and caucus projects. This funding request, including a project description, timeline, spending plan, and contact person information, will be submitted to our GSB liaison, Michalene R, by November 1, 2018.

2. Network of Telephone Volunteers. We have written a draft procedure including volunteer training to answer calls that come in to the General Service Office from the debtor who still suffers. This document has been reviewed by the GSO Office Manager. We are working with the Resource Development Committee (RDC) to complete and implement the procedure and training protocol for volunteers. These calls would come in on a dedicated toll-free number and be forwarded to the volunteer network at times decided upon by the GSO Office Manager, so he can work more effectively and without so many interruptions. The GSB Office Committee will prepare and send to GSO Manager Allan C a tracking sheet so he can record the types of calls the office receives.

3. Policy and Procedures (P&P) Manual for the GSO. The GSB Office Committee is looking at the historic documents now and will report back to the IOC about a potential timeline for completion of this project.

4. Location of the GSO. The General Service Board has renewed the lease for the Needham, Massachusetts office space for 5 years, expiring in October 2022. The possibility of relocating the GSO has been placed on long-term status. Long range planning and save-to-spend funds as a line item for an office move might take as long as 10 years to acquire funding. See Item 3 under Recommendations section above. We will work with the GSB Office Committee on the idea of issuing a Request for Statements of Interest to the DA Intergroups for possible relocation of the GSO to their region.

5. Office Staff. The GSB Office Committee has hired a 20-hour per week employee to help Allan C, the Office Manager.

6. Meetings Completed in the 2018-2019 Program Year. The IOC members met once per month by telephone in September, October, and November.

Submitted in service,  
Paul M, IOC Chair

## WSC Literature Committee (LitCom)

In the months following the World Service Conference, the Literature Committee has been focused on responding to ten literature-related Issues & Concerns from the Fellowship. As always, these concerns are addressed to the best of our ability while seeking the wisdom of a loving Higher Power as expressed in our group conscience. In addition, Literature Subcommittees formed at this year’s Conference are meeting monthly to work on the literature projects outlined below.

2018-2019 subcommittee work:

- “Underserved and Under-Represented Outreach” service

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# World Service Conference Committee Reports

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literature (Subcommittee Chair: Suzanne. Members: Beth, Kelly) -- The Diversity pamphlet outline created in 2017-2018 will be further developed by this subcommittee and become a new piece of D.A. service literature.

- “Recovery and Relapse” pamphlet (Subcommittee Chair: Vivian. Members: Curt, Amos, Kelly, Cynthia) -- This is a new 2018 WSC approved literature concept that is in the beginning stages of development. The subcommittee is currently focused on writing an outline for this pamphlet.

- “Couples and D.A.” pamphlet (Subcommittee Chair: Cynthia. Members: Amos, MaryJane, Kellie, Vivian) -- This is a new 2018 WSC approved literature concept that is in the beginning stages of development. The subcommittee is currently focused on writing an outline for this pamphlet.

- “D.A. Daily Meditations” book (Subcommittee Chair: John. Members: Harmony, Gidalia, Marysia) -- This subcommittee is finalizing the logistics for a Fellowship-wide announcement calling for member-submitted meditations and assignment of rights.

- D.A. Slogans bookmark and 3rd & 7th Step Prayers bookmark (Subcommittee Chair: Harmony. Members: Marysia, MaryJane, Gidalia, John) -- These 2018 WSC approved literature concepts are in the beginning stages of development. The subcommittee is currently focused on gathering D.A. slogans from Conference-approved literature.

The monthly teleconference meetings for this year’s WSC Literature Committee have been well-attended and productive. I am honored to serve once again as Chair and work alongside this incredibly talented group of D.A. members

committed to carrying the message of D.A. recovery to others through Conference-approved literature.

— Amy O., WSC Literature Committee Chair

## WSC Public Information Committee (PI)

The WSC Public Information Committee has as its purpose to carry the message of D.A. to the still-suffering debtor by interacting with the media and helping professionals, the general public, and the D.A. Fellowship-at-large.

This year’s Committee has kicked off the service year with a bang!

We will be hosting Fellowship-wide Calls in the first and second quarters of 2019. The first call will tentatively focus on “The Nuts and Bolts of Public Info.”

The Committee has submitted a motion that has been approved to add a new email address PublicInfo@DebtorsAnonymous.org to replace the existing PI@DebtorsAnonymous.org email address. We will NOT be changing any existing literature (pamphlets, contact cards, PI Manual/StarterKit, etc.). The new address will be used on literature as it is developed going forward only. The two email addresses will be merged into one mailbox with the recipients being the Chairperson of the GSB PI Committee (currently Tom R.) and the Chairperson of the WSC PI Committee (currently Barb S.)

The majority of our Committee attended the Media Contact Training held by Siobhan on October 13th. It was extremely informative and helpful. Thanks go to Siobhan!

The PI Committee is also compiling a motion to host a booth at a Psychological Therapy for Addictions Symposium to be held in Colorado

Springs, CO in January 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb S., PI Committee Chair

## WSC Resource Development Committee (RDC)

The RDC held its third conference call since the 2018 World Service Conference on Sunday, October 21. Tom R. is its GSB liaison.

To recap the RDC 2018-2019 goals:

1. Editing, approval and distribution of annual communications, including the John H. Scholarship Fund announcement, the April anniversary fundraising campaign, and a new/ third announcement pertaining to the potential tax benefits of an end of year contribution to the Fellowship,

2. Review the language of the DAMS as it pertains to the Seventh Tradition and the Treasurer’s service position,

3. Three Fellowship-wide Calls pertaining to generosity and service, and

4. Tracking the growth in overall contributions to the Fellowship with particular note of online contributions and any substantial individual fellow contribution. Note: The RDC’s goal is an additional 20% growth in Fellowship contributions over the last fiscal year.

RDC Status as of 10/31/2018

1. The new End of Year Contribution/Potential Tax Benefit Announcement was drafted and submitted to both the Finance Committee and Full GSB for approval and scheduled to be posted on the D.A. website the first week of November and distributed electronically to subscribers of *Ways & Means*. Volunteers are in place to edit the John H. and Annual Appeal communications.

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# World Service Conference Caucus Reports

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2. Volunteers are drafting a 7th Tradition announcement to be suggested for use by the phone meeting hosts, as well as updating the language of the DAMS to reference DA's new online US Debit card contribution method.

3. A Fellowship-wide Call with the theme of Promise 7 / Generosity is being planned for the first or second Saturday of December, most likely the second. Final schedule will be determined based on the availability of the speakers we are currently seeking.

4. Contributions are indeed up a substantial % over fiscal 2017-2018. August 2018's donations showed an increase of approx. \$9,035 over August 2017 (\$19,545.20 2018 vs. \$10,510.46 2017.) Also, online contributions are showing steady growth; the Sept. 2018 online contributions totaled \$1480 with \$1000 coming from one D.A. member. Lastly, 2018 YTD contributions as of 8/2018 (August) totaled \$25,455.71 compared with \$10,510.46 in 2017.

In Service,  
Diana B, RDC Chair

## WSC Intergroup Caucus

The Intergroup Caucus has nine members, one of whom is our Board Liaison, Dayton L. At the WSC, we reviewed the services done by last year's committee and will be continuing their work. For the last few years the Intergroup Caucus has been working on an Intergroup Service Handbook, and we are waiting for it to come out as it goes through the Board review and approval process. At the 2018 WSC, region maps were handed out to all those who attended the Conference. We will continue to update information from the Intergroups and will be working with the International Caucus so that we

can expand the data to D.A. groups outside the United States. All of the members are truly committed to find ways to provide support and help for the Intergroups. This year we plan on having one or two Fellowship-wide Calls. The first call is tentatively titled "United We Stand". It will be focused on the advantages on having working Intergroups and how the Intergroup can effectively communicate with other D.A. groups. We are also going to be working on an Intergroup Resource Webpage and will be storing our work in Google Docs so that future members of the Intergroup Caucus can continue the progress.

— Marysia H., Intergroup Caucus Chair

## WSC International Caucus

The International Caucus serves to exchange information and develop initiatives to support the growth of D.A. internationally. We meet monthly by conference call and have been working on the following projects:

1) Encouraging international members to submit D.A. stories for D.A. literature and helping arrange translation where needed.

2) Supporting the work of the new GSB Literature Translation and Licensing Committee to make the D.A. message available in as many languages as possible.

3) Researching ways to record D.A. stories in their native languages and making them available for playback on the DA website (coordinating with relevant committees).

4) Supporting the GSB in facilitating international payment options.

5) Continuing to collect and suggesting ways to display archival information on the history of D.A. around the world.

6) Continuing to develop an

international contact list for travelers and members living overseas.

7) Working with the Intergroup Caucus to get local country numbers for D.A. phone meetings made available.

8) Liaising with the Conference Committee on encouraging remote participation in the World Service Conference.

Please feel free to contact us with your international contacts and queries through the General Service Office.

Yours in loving service,  
Tracey O., International Caucus Chair

## WSC Spiritually Sustainable Earning Caucus (SSEC)

The Spiritually Sustainable Earning Caucus hosted our second ever Fellowship-wide Call on 11/11, at 11AM PST. The call featured three speakers discussing the topic, "What is Spiritually Sustainable Earning? - Part 2," with sub-topics including "Living Your Vision," "Work/Life Balance," and "Action Partners." After the speakers, there was open sharing by members in attendance. The recording of the call is available online at [debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts](http://debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts)

Our Literature Review Subcommittee is looking over our potential proposal for a SSE-focus meeting format and signposts, as well as reviewing selected existing literature.

SSEC members have been exploring the topic of "What is Spiritually Sustainable Earning? What Would It Look Like?" by writing thoughtful personal accounts and sharing during our SSEC monthly phone meetings. Some of the writings

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# 2019 WSC Host Committee Report

(continued)

will be submitted for publication in the *Ways & Means*.

Overall, SSEC members have been dedicated and hardworking, striving to uphold our mission:

“The Spiritually Sustainable Earning Caucus (SSEC) serves to support the D.A. Fellowship in gaining clarity around issues of earning in the D.A. program. Our vision is to broaden the Fellowship-wide understanding of how spiritually sustainable earning fits into D.A. recovery, encouraging a comprehensive and spiritual approach by working the Twelve Steps and using the Tools of Debtors Anonymous.”

In gratitude and service,  
Lolly, SSEC Chair

## WSC 2019 Host Committee

The Los Angeles Host Committee is proud to report that we have almost 100 volunteers signed up already. Of the 22 current subcommittees, only eight are without chairs. We are so grateful for this outpouring of support for the Conference.

Every second Saturday of the month, the Host Committee meets in the Plummer Park Community Center in West Hollywood from 11am to 12:30pm. There is plenty of free parking!

On Saturday Dec. 1, we are holding our first Host Committee Fundraiser at Bethel Lutheran Church, 5750 W. Olympic Blvd., L.A. 90036 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please join us for the “Winter D.A. De-Cluttering Event and

Clothing Swap.” Bring clothes or items you’re not using, take home whatever you like. \$15 contribution at the door.

The Los Angeles and Southern California D.A. Fellowship is honored to host the 2019 World Service Convention — “Spotlight on Service.” Save the dates: August 7 to August 11, 2019.

For more info, please email: dawsc2019la@gmail.com

If you live in Southern California and would like to volunteer, please visit the link: <http://socalda.org/2019-da-world-conference/>

— Rob B, 2019 Los Angeles Host Committee Chair



## Would Your Area Like to Host the D.A. World Service Conference in 2020/2021?

The D.A. GSB and the WSC’s Conference Committee are now accepting bids from Intergroups worldwide to host the 2020 and/or 2021 World Service Conference (WSC).

The WSC is traditionally held in early-to-mid August. The Conference draws approximately 80–100 D.A. members, and the service opportunities will infuse local groups and members with renewed experience, strength and hope.

All bids submitted by or before the deadline of 11:59 P.M. EST, February 15, 2019 will be considered. Finalists will be interviewed by the WSC Conference Committee via conference call. The selected Host Committee will have as a resource the GSB Conference Support Committee, the WSC Conference Committee, and a detailed Host Committee Handbook.

**Submitting your proposal:** All bids and inquiries should be forwarded by or before 11:59 P.M. EST, February 15, 2019, to [GSB@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:GSB@debtorsanonymous.org)

**To create a proposal:** Information about hosting the WSC and guidance for creating a proposal are provided in Pages 20-21 of the WSC 2018 Registration Packet, available at:

<https://www.debtorsanonymous.org/2018wsc>

Thank you for considering this valuable service to Debtors Anonymous!

**Please share this announcement at your meetings.**

End of Year  
Charitable Contribution Announcement

From the WSC Resource Development Committee

**Take the opportunity before this year's end  
to share your abundance with Debtors Anonymous!**

In accordance with Debtors Anonymous Tradition 7, please note:

The D.A. Fellowship annual contribution cap is  
\$12,000 U.S.D. per year.

\*\$12,000 annual contribution cap approved by the  
2018 DA World Service Conference.

Debtors Anonymous, Inc. is a U.S. 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. Please note that 100% of any charitable contribution made by a U.S. federal taxpayer to Debtors Anonymous, Inc. may under certain circumstances be treated as a valid federal income tax deduction and reduce 2018 U.S. federal income tax liability.

**Please consult with your personal tax adviser  
regarding charitable contributions.**

**THREE CONTRIBUTION METHODS ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU**

**ONLINE \* NEW METHOD \* U.S. DEBIT CARDS ONLY:**

**The General Service Board (GSB) of Debtors Anonymous is pleased to announce that United States D.A. groups and members can now make secure, online, debit-card contributions to D.A. directly on the Debtors Anonymous website at:**

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/onlinecontribution/>

**BY MAIL:**

**Make checks payable to D.A.-G.S.B. and send to:  
Debtors Anonymous, General Service Office  
P.O. Box 920888, Needham, Massachusetts, USA 02492-0009**

**BY ELECTRONIC BANK TRANSFER OR BILL PAY:**

**Instructions for DA Electronic Contributions Via Your Bank available here:  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/fellowship-services/make-a-contribution/>**

**Please distribute this End-of-Year Announcement at D.A. meetings and to D.A. Fellows.**

# For the Good and Wellbeing of the Fellowship

Have you signed up for **eNews**? Has your group?

Get connected to D.A. worldwide.

Receive newsletters, announcements, event info, and more.

To subscribe, visit:  
[debtorsanonymous.org/enews](http://debtorsanonymous.org/enews)

Share your personal story in **Ways & Means**, our meeting in print!

Have you been of service to a meeting by giving a **lead share**?

**Write it down**, send it in!

Feel free to email us your original photo, drawing, or poem that represents your recovery and/or vision in Debtors Anonymous.

**Email** your story/artwork to:  
[waysandmeansDA@hotmail.com](mailto:waysandmeansDA@hotmail.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENT CORNER

*Here are possible announcements for members—especially General and Intergroup Service Representatives (GSRs & ISRs)—to make during D.A. meetings:*

1. *The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Debtors Anonymous* is now available in digital format as an eBook at:  
[www.debtorsanonymous.org/ebook-12-12-12](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/ebook-12-12-12)
  2. Fellowship-wide Calls use the U.S. call-in phone number: 1-605-472-5540, access code: 617093#. International phone numbers (and online access) are available at [www.debtorsanonymous.org/call-in-access](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/call-in-access). Let members know to mark their calendars for the upcoming live Fellowship-wide Calls:
    - Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 2:00 – 3:30 Eastern Time titled “**A Spiritual Approach to Growing your Business: The Tools of BDA (Tools 7 – 9)**”, presented by the Business Debtors Anonymous Committee
    - Sunday, December 16, 2018 from 2:00 – 3:00 Eastern Time titled “**Ask-the-GSB: D.A. Literature and Literature Translations update**”, presented by the GSB Long-Range Planning Committee
  3. Listen to free recordings of speaker shares from Fellowship-Wide Calls on the D.A. website at [www.debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts)
  4. The deadline is fast approaching to submit a bid for your city to host the World Service Conference in 2020 and/or 2021. Details about what to include in your bid can be found on the last two pages of the 2018 WSC Registration Packet at [www.debtorsanonymous.org/2018wsc](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/2018wsc). Bids and inquiries should be forwarded to [GSB@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:GSB@debtorsanonymous.org) by or before Feb. 15, 2019.
  5. If it fits in your spending plan, please increase your 7th Tradition contributions!
  6. Let your meetings know that members may sign up to receive eNews about D.A. by email at [www.debtorsanonymous.org/enews](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/enews) or U.S. members may text “DARECOVERY” (DA Recovery as one word w/o spaces) to 22828.
  7. Share your story in *Ways & Means*—the recovery magazine of D.A.—or share an article about service in *The DA Focus* newsletter.  
Go to: [www.debtorsanonymous.org/share](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/share)
- For more announcements, visit: [www.debtorsanonymous.org/announcements](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/announcements)

LOS ANGELES IS READY TO WELCOME YOU TO  
THE 2019 D.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

**AUGUST 7-11, 2019**  
**LAX HILTON HOTEL**

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SAVE YOUR SERENITY!**

**WORLD  
SERVICE  
CONFERENCE**

**2019**

LOS ANGELES

*“Spotlight on Service”*