

Proposal for addition to the 2022-2023 Area 43 Service Handbook

Background

Orientation and training for AA members in new service positions is key to increasing the level of participation in service. A strong introduction to the particulars of each service role, in tandem with active encouragement to seek service sponsorship, will benefit AA in New Hampshire – at the level of Groups, Districts and the Area.

A number of Areas in the US and Canada organize and host regular Orientation events for new service position holders. Examples from Areas within the Northeast Region:

- Orientation Day – offered by Area 48 in January of the year a new Panel begins its service
- New York State Informational Workshop – offered each summer and “open to any AA member who wants to learn more about general service...”

Throughout 2020-2021, our Area has arranged GSR Orientations before the opening of our quarterly Area Assemblies. These have been well attended (average 40+ participants) and the feedback has been very positive. In addition, we organized a DCM Meet & Greet, which offered the same type of orientation for DCMs and Alternate DCMs as has been included in the GSR sessions. Again, the response was positive.

At the inception of each new panel, the January Area Committee meeting is very well attended, but there is little activity to report as all Officers and Committee Chairs are new in their positions, as are most DCMs. In January of each year a new panel takes office, I propose we arrange an Orientation Day in lieu of a regular Area Committee meeting. The only items of Area business would be the Secretary’s Report and Approval of Minutes, Treasurer’s Report and Approval of Financials, and Delegates Report. Concurrent Orientation Sessions would be offered for GSRs and Alt GSRs, DCMs and Alt DCMs, and for each service position which corresponds to an Area Standing Committee. In addition, the current Northeast Regional Trustee (or a former Trustee if the current office holder is unavailable) should be invited to talk about the importance of general service and provide an introduction to the services offered by GSO. I propose we add language to the Area 43 Handbook and a “template” agenda.

Respectfully submitted
Grace F
Area 43 Chair

Draft Text for the Handbook

Orientation Day

Orientation for AA members in new service positions is key to increasing the level of participation in service. A strong introduction to the particulars of each service role will benefit AA in New Hampshire – at the level of Groups, Districts and the Area.

In January of the year in which a new panel takes office, an Orientation Day is to be held in lieu of a regular Area Committee meeting. The following reports will be presented: Secretary's Report and Approval of Minutes, Treasurer's Report and Approval of Financials, and Delegates Report. The remainder of the meeting will be devoted to orientation and training.

Sample Agenda¹

OPENING

Welcome, Moment of Silence, AA Preamble, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary *Motion required*
Treasurer *Motion required*
Delegate

INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL SERVICE & SERVICES OFFERED BY GSO (NE Regional Trustee)

CONCURRENT ORIENTATION SESSIONS

GSR and Alt GSR, DCM and Alt DCM, Treasurers, Registrars, Accessibilities, Corrections, Functions, Grapevine/Literature, Hotline, PI/CPC, Pipeline/Newsletter, Technology/Website, Treatment, Young People's

INTRODUCTION TO THE AREA 43 SERVICE OFFICE (Service Office Chair)

“TOUR” OF THE AREA 43 WEBSITE

CLOSING

Responsibility Pledge

¹ This agenda is intended as a template only and may be modified by the Area Chair.