

Hawaii Area World Service Committee Meeting
Delegate's Report
September 17, 2024

- Please see the following information regarding “Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous”.

Al-Anon Family Groups and Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) share a common spiritual legacy in A.A.'s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Before Al-Anon was founded, family groups met with, and beside, A.A. groups. In 1951, various family groups banded together and agreed to organize Al-Anon Family Groups, a program dedicated to helping the friends and families of alcoholics. Over the years, Al-Anon developed its own service structure, based on the model provided by A.A.'s experience and guided by the Twelve Traditions.

Tradition Five defines Al-Anon's single purpose. Tradition Six encourages cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous, maintaining that Al-Anon is a separate entity that ought never affiliate or create the appearance of affiliation with any outside enterprise. Putting these principles into practice maintains a separation between the service structures of Al-Anon and A.A. This separation helps avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and safeguards Al-Anon's singleness of purpose. Accordingly, Al-Anon's policy is that members who are also members of A.A. do not serve as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Delegate, World Service Conference member, alternate to any of these service positions, or on any committee of the World Service Office.

Filling service positions is a matter of District and Area autonomy within this policy and the spiritual principles that form its basis. Tradition Four grants autonomy to local service arms, except in matters affecting Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. participate fully in all group activities, including group conscience decisions. However, they do not hold Al-Anon service positions that vote in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole.

Participating in Al-Anon service is integral to recovery for every member. Step Twelve, carrying our message to others, is a very important part of Al-Anon service. Members of Al-Anon who are also members of A.A. are often in a position to carry our message to those who are not aware of the benefits of attending Al-Anon Family Groups. Members of Al-Anon who are also members of A.A. may serve Al-Anon in ways that include being an Alateen Group Sponsor (see the "Alateen" Policy) or they may be invited by local/Area service arms, the Board of Trustees, or the World Service Office to participate in projects, in keeping with the spirit of this policy.

This policy on service participation by members of Al-Anon who are also A.A. members, protects Al-Anon's viability as a program dedicated to helping the families and friends of alcoholics. It ensures that Al-Anon's service structure represents the unique perspective of families and friends of alcoholics, recognizing that the alcoholic's perspective is represented in A.A.'s service structure. Members honor this policy out of respect for Al-Anon unity and the group conscience process, in accordance with Tradition One and Tradition Two.

- "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies" section of the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27)

Thank you for your service to Al-Anon Family Groups,

Your Conference Leadership Team

- 2024 Fall Assembly – Delegate's Report – Part II, "Diversity Discussion"

At the 2024 WSC, "INCLUSION—THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES DESCRIBED THROUGH OUR LEGACIES AND MISSION", was discussed and is outlined on page 17 of the 2024 World Service Conference Summary. Members were asked to think about this statement in "Groups at Work" in the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27) v3, pg. 8: **"Al-Anon is a unique fellowship that unites members of different backgrounds in an inspiring endeavor"**.

The topic of "Diversity" was suggested in the 2024 Spring Assembly evaluation. At the Fall Assembly we will have the opportunity to discuss this topic. In the effort to have a lively discussion in which GRs and those in attendance at the Fall Assembly can prepare and participate I would like to pose (2) questions that can be addressed on this topic to keep the discussion focused.

- 1) In what ways has our Area/District/Groups been welcoming to those of various backgrounds in Hawaii?
- 2) What more can we do as an Area/District/Group to address the issue of Diversity?

I would ask that DRs discuss this at your District meetings so GRs can be prepared to participate if they wish to. Please stress that this is an ongoing discussion at the WSC, as it will be in our Area. No motions will be entertained as a result of this discussion.

Mahalo,

Kaui Poaha
Delegate, Hawaii, Panel 64