

Area 9 Florida-North Panel 61

Excess Funds Task Force Final Report

July 29, 2023

Task Force Members

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Task Force Charge/Topic

We have a surplus of \$10k in 2022 due to reduced expenses during COVID shutdowns. Historically, we have sent extra funds to help WSO with shortfalls. COVID may have affected our Area in ways that are not entirely clear. Are there risks to local groups and recovery in general? Are there opportunities to carry our message to others that may not have been available in the past?

Topics:

1. Create a process for a committee to determine how the Area should spend excess funds, incorporating the spiritual principles of the program.
2. Determine if and how much extra funds should be added to the Area reserve fund.
3. Determine how much of the extra funds should be donated to the World Service Office (WSO)

Task Force Summary/Findings

The Task Force met three times between April and June to discuss this topic. As all Task Force Members participated in the Thought Force, we revisited the recommendations we submitted with the final Thought Force Report.

We confirmed we still agreed with the recommendations from the Thought Force report and decided to draft a new procedure for the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) to consider adopting. This procedure will establish a process for future Area 9 Panels and Members to follow to recommend uses for excess funds.

The resulting document, Evaluating Uses for Excess Funds Procedures as drafted address the various factors identified during the Thought Force, including:

- Considering the Area's current financial health and upcoming known expenses

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- Providing a framework to inform all Members in Area 9 of the availability of excess funds
 - Inviting all Area 9 Members to make suggestions on how to use the funds
 - Suggesting a timeframe on how long suggestions will be considered
 - Establishing a Task Force to review the suggestions and make a recommendation on which suggestion or suggestions to fund prior to the next AWSC meeting for review and approval by the current Panel members
 - Ensuring all Group Representatives have an opportunity to approve the recommendation unless it is time-sensitive and will expire prior to the next Area Assembly
 - Considering the WSO's current financial health and needs

We believe the "Evaluating Uses for Excess Funds Procedures" address all of these issues and honor the following AI-Anon spiritual principles (among others):

- Communication, as Area 9 Members are informed when the Area has excess funds and encouraged to suggest uses for it
- Prudence, as they consider the Area's and WSO's financial health and needs
- Faith, as they demonstrate the Area's confidence that our Membership will continue to contribute to the Area and participate in Area events that raise funds for such efforts

Task Force Recommendation

The Task Force on Excess Funds recommends the Area accept the Evaluating Uses for Excess Funds Procedures as submitted.