**Who Attends the World Service Conference, and Why?**

In the descriptive text of Concept Four, we find our suggested guide as to who participates and why. The Delegates, who meet only once a year, are concerned primarily about policies, plans, and actions to take effect in the future. The WSO Staff and Volunteers, because of their daily work and regularly scheduled meetings, are the individuals who have more first-hand information on aspects of Al-Anon business related to the present. These groups of individuals bring different knowledge and perspectives on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. Thus, the Conference has access to spiritual guidance found through the collective wisdom of all Conference participants.

These individuals, despite their different service roles, share two common traits while at Conference:

1. They listen and participate in discussions on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole.

2. They vote on these matters.

Delegates

Besides listening, participating, and voting on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole, we Delegates bring the viewpoint of our Areas on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. We also return to our Areas to share a broader perspective of Al-Anon worldwide. We are the bridge of understanding that links the groups in the Area with world Al-Anon. We are the trusted servants of Al-Anon as a whole. Read more about us in Concepts Two and Three as well as in the *World Service Handbook*.

WSO Volunteers, our Board of Trustees:

Besides listening, participating, and voting on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole, we have a legal responsibility for the funds and services provided by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. We guard the legal rights of the Al-Anon fellowship, protect our principles from distortion and dilution, and are the chief service arm of the World Service Conference. We ensure the goals and directions of the Conference are carried out by the WSO in accordance with our Twelve Traditions. Read more about us in Concept Seven.

WSO Volunteers, our Executive Committee:

We, too, listen, participate, and vote on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. We are entrusted with legal management of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. This authority is granted to us by the Board of Trustees in order that we can provide oversight on daily affairs at the World Service Office. You might know us best as the body that reviews presentations prior to Conference, but that is just a small part of our responsibilities delegated to us by the Board of Trustees. Read more about us in Concept Eight.

WSO Staff Members, our Service Workers:

We too, listen, participate, and vote on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. We are Al-Anon members and paid workers at the WSO. We are in direct contact with Al-Anon members worldwide through correspondence and sometimes travel. We serve the fellowship in a variety of ways, all of which you have seen listed on the back of the Appeal letter this past year. We not only support the world leadership of the Trustees, but we share world leadership with them. Read more about us in Concept Eleven.

Non-Voting WSO Staff Members

We work at the World Service Office in service roles affecting both the members of Al-Anon worldwide as well as other staff and volunteers. We often develop and implement new plans to more effectively provide services to the fellowship or for the staff. We are a visible image of world service when members visit the WSO. Read more about us in Concept Eleven and about the functions of WSO in the “World Service Handbook.”

Chairperson of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM):

A task delegated to me at Conference is to ring the bell and keep everyone on time. However, my primary responsibility as ECRPM Chair is to ensure that the spirit and letter of the resolution to create the ECRPM and handle the management of our property is upheld. This includes the actual WSO building and its grounds. This is why, as ECRPM Chair at Conference, I am given voice limited to ECRPM business, but no vote. Read more about ECRPM in Concept Eight.

Conference Recorders (*Conference Summary* and Audio Recorders):

We ensure that an accurate record of this Conference is available to members and retained for the Al-Anon Archives.

International Guests:

We come to gain information regarding the World Service Conference procedures and policies, to share with you a little about our service structure and to participate in worldwide Al-Anon. you can read our stories in the *World Service Conference Summaries*.

Interpreters:

We provide oral simultaneous translation services from English to French and English to Spanish and vice versa, when required, to make it possible for non-English-speaking WSC Members to participate in the Conference.