



**Delegate's Report
Virtual Assembly –
October 2-4, 2020
Florida North – Area 9**



Hello Florida North - It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of Panel 58! And what a spectacular ending we are having, am I right? Between practicing the spiritual principles of recovery, turning things over to a Higher Power, and keeping it simple we have also become amazingly adept at virtual meetings and strengthening the bonds of connection of our fellowship through a pandemic, hurricanes, and global changes that have challenged us all. And here we are – we keep coming back! Thank you, each and every one of you, who have risen to the challenges, overcome the obstacles, and surrendered whenever possible. This is true recovery!

I. Chairman of the Board Letter - July 2020

The 2021 World Service Conference Theme:

Moving Forward with Unity, Courage, and Perseverance

Avancemos con unidad, valor y perseverancia

Allons de l'avant avec unité, courage et persévérance

Throughout our service structure, we strive to deepen our understanding of the Al-Anon spiritual principles and Legacies. How we talk to each other and reason things out, how we gather and share information and make decisions, are all rooted in these principles. The World Service Conference Theme is one way to focus our efforts.

During the last six months of this pandemic I've seen how together, and in unity, we've swiftly adapted to meeting virtually in our groups, districts, and Area. I know how much courage it takes to move forward into a changed reality, and to persevere, one day at a time. Together we're working to recover, while serving our fellowship and fulfilling our primary purpose: to help the families and friends of alcoholics.

Let's bring this new theme into our District and Area meetings as we approach 2021—the year we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Al-Anon!

II. Highlights of the COB Letter

- **Finances:** The response to the May Appeal Letter was overwhelming. Contributions for June 2020 were \$509,058. This set a record for the most contributions ever received in one month! We still project a \$420,000 shortfall for 2020 due to decreased literature sales. (See Finance letter for more details.)
- 2021 WSC will be held in Tarrytown, NY from April 12 to April 16, 2021. Conference Members will visit Stepping Stones. Our new Delegate will attend this annual business meeting! It is an exciting, spiritual time for all of us.
- Board Members recognize our current unique opportunity for the Board of Trustees to engage in conversation with members. The idea of a "virtual town hall" meeting was proposed. A plan is being developed and will be provided to the Area Delegates in the beginning of September.
- Policy Committee: has been using our Legacies to spiritually ground any proposed changes to the Service Manual. During the 2021 World Service Conference there will be many updates and changes discussed. Our next version of the Service Manual is due out in 2022.
- Report from the Electronic Meeting Work Group (EMWG) and Board of Trustees: recommendations for electronic events operating within the service structure, and for electronic meetings to move toward operating the same way other Al-Anon meetings do, as described in our Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual. There continues to be a vigorous, fruitful and ongoing conversation about how changes in our worldwide fellowship will be adapting to the virtual meeting world. Stay in touch and stay tuned in!

WSO FINANCES

- What is our worldwide fellowship investing in during 2020 and beyond?
 - * New strategic plan with measurable objectives and detailed timelines being measured
 - * A new mobile app for the WSO website is online now – meetings on the go, as well as support from other Al-Anon members, the WSO and the opportunity to keep a journal.
 - * New PSAs being developed with tracking ability to measure impact – constantly evolving to include as many experiences as possible, to show that Al-Anon is for everyone affected by someone else's drinking.
 - * Online store being redesigned – making it easier to shop in all three languages and to make contributions to the WSO,
 - * Upgrades to meeting search abilities, and navigation on the Website
 - * Upgrades and changes to online Group Records
 - * Connecting with General Service Organizations (GSO's) from around the world

- * Supporting translation of all CAL materials into Spanish and French using professional translators
- * Adapting to online and electronic and phone meetings that have grown in volume so fast. The EMWG is keeping very busy.
- * Working with members across the world to unify Al-Anon's purpose through our common understanding of the spiritual principles

These are just some of the reasons that we can all be grateful for, and generous with, the WSO and all that they do on behalf of each member of Al-Anon! It's always a helpful reminder to me that our contributions are voluntary. We give according to what we have received from the fellowship in terms of recovery, serenity, peace and abundance. We all understand that there is a Higher Power at work in our fellowship, and we are participating with that Power that is greater than ourselves. Some of us can give our time. Others of us can contribute our talent. And many of us can make voluntary contributions of money that can be used to fuel the ongoing work of family recovery.

Thank you for letting me serve as your Delegate. This has been one of the highlights of my life. I have been loved so much, supported so much, encouraged so much. Your kindness and connection to my life has shown me just how real and how tangible my Higher Power is. I can see him in all of you! Thank you.

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