

Resources for KBDM AWSC August 2018

AIS – Al-Anon Information Services

This is a “Service Entity” and is not part of the Links of Service (Group-District-Area-WSC). It can have a seat on the Area AWSC.

This is an entity separate from the District. It often includes more than one District. It has a variety of ways to be organized, but the usual way is in a large city where there are several DISTRICTS, they band together to form an AIS to handle Public Outreach, Meeting Lists, Phone Service, Website.

The AIS has its own separate organization (business), By Laws, finances, Board of Directors, etc. While it should operate within the Spiritual Principles of our program (using the spirit of the Legacies) it is not part of the Group-District-Area-WSC Service structure.

The WSO requires an independent mailing address, phone number and email for the AIS. The contact information cannot be associated with an individual. It needs to be listed in local phone and web directories using “Al-Anon...” at the beginning of its title, so that professionals and others can find it when searching. Because the AIS is a separate entity it must be organized in ways other than a Group, District or Area. That means that if the AIS needs an address for the Business Finance requirements, that address cannot be a PO Box and it cannot be a personal address. And, the AIS must conduct activities in addition to answering 12 step telephone calls.

An AIS is not a District, does not usually work within a single District and is not part of a District Service Structure. A District Public Outreach Chair is not the same thing as an AIS. There is a partnership between the Service Entity and the Service Structure to help people recover from the effects of someone else’s drinking.

A registered AIS has access to AFGConnects for AIS because although they are not part of the Links of Service structure, they are in partnership and contact with the WSO staff and each other.

Please see G-4 as well as the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P24/27) for more information about AIS.

LDC – Literature Distribution Center

An LDC is a service entity, it is not usually part of the Links of Service structure. It can be formed independently or it can be formed with an AIS. It can also be formed by a District. It is a “committee directly responsible to those they serve”.

The WSO does not require an independent address, phone or email. The WSO offers three different addresses : Mailing. Billing. Shipping. These can be the same or different. They can be personal or business. Shipping addresses may NOT be a Post Office Box, so a street address is required for this address. The WSO issues a WSO ID number and that LDC must place at least one order per year to remain an LDC.

The WSO requires the LDC to stock and sell ONLY Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature. The LDC may not sell below the WSO retail price.

The WSO gives the LDC a 17% discount on all orders.

If the LDC is created within the District, then the LDC must give periodic reports of orders, finances and other information directly to the District. If the LDC is created to serve an Area then it must give periodic reports of orders, finances and other information directly to the Area and can sit on the AWSC. The LDC can exist on its own as an independent entity and have no connection to a single group, District or Area. It remains connected to the WSO; they work in partnership to carry the AI-Anon message of hope and recovery through Conference Approved Literature (CAL).

Districts or Groups may create their own Literature Committee with a Literature Chairperson and that group works with the District/Group and WSO to provide literature. Unless the Committee is registered as an LDC they will only receive discounts on purchases by the Case. A District Literature Chairperson is not qualified as an "LDC" unless they are registered with the WSO as an LDC.

All LDCs have access to the AFGConnects for LDCs and they receive priority notices and advance order forms. They are not part of the Links of Service structure unless they are created as such. If the District has an LDC then they are connected BOTH to the District and the WSO.

Please see G-18 and the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P24/27) for information about Literature Distribution Centers.

AIS/LDC – the combination service entity

If an AIS and LDC are located in the same place and/or they register as one service entity then they must meet all the requirements of the AIS (an independent street address, phone number and email – none associated with an individual).

Any employee of an AIS or an LDC does not serve as a volunteer in a policy-making position such as Group Representative, District Representative, Area Assembly Officer or Coordinator, Delegate or Trustee.

An AIS and/or an LDC serve all members of their geographic location regardless of language. An AIS and/or LDC is expected to have information, contacts and literature in languages that serve their community. In addition, the AIS and/or LDC serves Alateen and is expected to provide services for younger people suffering from the effects of someone else's problem drinking.

An AIS/LDC would be registered with the WSO and have access to the AFGConnects communities for both AIS and LDC. A combination entity would most likely not be associated within a single District but rather be a cooperative venture between several Districts. The WSO sees these services entities as completely separate from Group – District – Area Service Structure.

NOTES and QUESTIONS: