




SELF-SUPPORT: WHERE MONEY AND SPIRITUALITY MIX

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members.

We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise.

Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

—Tradition Seven (long form)



**SELF-SUPPORT:
WHERE MONEY AND
SPIRITUALITY MIX**

This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

"Self-support begins with me, because I am part of us — the group. We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and A.A. literature. We support our central office, our area committee, and our General Service Office. If it were not for those entities, many new people would never discover the miracles of A.A."

service

WHAT DOES YOUR DOLLAR BUY?



The collage consists of four distinct images: a close-up of the number '1' on a US dollar bill, a solid black square, a diamond-shaped graphic with horizontal lines and a central yellow dot, and a wicker basket.

GROUP EXPENSES

- Rent
- Coffee & supplies
- Literature
- Big Books and/or Newcomers packets
- Carrying the message outside of the Group
 - Corrections, Cooperation with Professional Community, Public Information, Treatment, etc.
- Supporting your GSR in service
 - Mileage, Assemblies, Regional Forums
- Contributions to District, Area, and GSO 60-30-10 or 40-30-30 or.....

DISTRICT EXPENSES

- Rent, coffee & supplies
- Printing
 - Minutes, Newsletters, Flyers, etc.
- Answering Service
- Directories
- Workshops
- District Service Committee work
 - Literature, Mileage, Assemblies, Regional Forums
- Contributions to Area and GSO

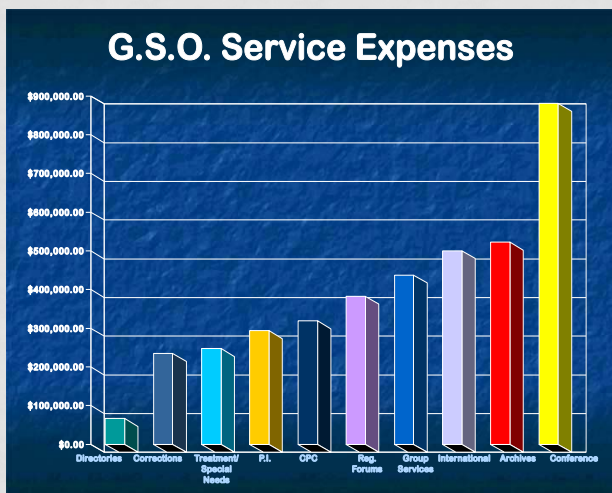
AREA EXPENSES / PRIMARY PURPOSE FINANCING

- Basic Expenses
 - Assemblies & Committee Meetings (4 each per year)
 - Rent, mileage, printing, mailing, coffee & supplies
 - General Service Conference
 - Delegate's attendance to Conference in New York
 - Pre-General Service Conference Workshop
 - Post-Conference Reports
 - Conferences & Forums
 - Operating Expenses
 - Archives, web site, professional fees, handbooks, etc.

AREA EXPENSES / PRIMARY PURPOSE FINANCING

- Primary Purpose Motions
 - Finance the activity of carrying the message
 - Big Books in libraries
 - Billboards
 - New computers for Secretary, Registrar
 - Workbooks, Workshops, DVDs, & instructional material to developing District Committees
- <http://www.aa-nia.org>
- Contributions to GSO

GSO EXPENSES



G.S.O. SERVICE EXPENSES: 2010

- General Service Conference 13%
- Records & Files 10%
- International Overseas 10%
- Corrections, CPC, PI 4%, 5%, & 5%
- Group Services 7%
- International Convention Assignments 3%
- Etc.

GSO FELLOWSHIP STATISTICS

FELLOWSHIP STATISTICS				
	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Cost of Service per member per year	\$7.81	\$8.43	\$8.29	\$8.32
Cost of Service per group per year	\$157.21	\$162.24	\$157.43	\$157.91
Number of members reported	1,342,330	1,359,379	1,379,331	1,334,339
Number of groups reported	30,593	31,331	32,373	33,243
Percentage of Groups Contributing	41.1%	41.3%	41.5%	42.3%
Contributions per member per year	\$1.39	\$1.30	\$1.21	\$1.17
Contributions per group per year	\$107.53	\$102.24	\$99.24	\$93.93
Literature contribution to Service cost	\$2.33	\$1.93	\$1.75	\$1.35

2011 CONTRIBUTIONS TO GSO

2011 Contributions From Groups, Individuals, Specials, Special Meetings — by Delegate Area (in U.S. Dollars)

Area	# GPS REPORTED	# GPS CONTRIB.	% OF GPS CONTRIB.	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIB.	MEMBERSHIP	CONTRIBUTION PER CAPITA	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	MEMORIAL	SPECIALS	SPECIAL MEETINGS	TOTAL AREA CONTRIBUTIONS	PER CAPITA
19	1,399	341	24.4	72,782	29,685	2.44	\$8,440.00	\$50.00	\$2,531.00	\$170.00	\$83,973.70	2.83
20	1,178	472	40.1	65,100	22,761	2.85	\$4,743.00		\$8,949.00	\$157.00	\$78,949.77	3.47
21	429	143	33.2	25,511	7,982	3.19	\$2,251.00	\$65.00	\$1,329.00	\$50.00	\$29,206.14	3.66
Total US/Canada	63,845	27,066	42.4	5,233,900	1,384,699	3.78	\$296,010.23	\$58,436.42	\$565,626.57	\$12,807.20	\$6,166,780.82	4.45

SELF SUPPORT CARD

The Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose — to help the alcoholic who still suffers.

The amount of our contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.



WHAT DID YOUR LAST DRINK COST?

- Case of beer \$12 - \$22
- Foo-foo martinis can cost \$10 each or more
- The average price of a Starbucks drink at its U.S. stores is in the \$2 to \$2.50 range for simple coffee
- Red Bull 4 pack \$8.99
- Bottled water \$1 - \$2 per bottle

TREASURY INFORMATION

- aa-nia.org
- aa.org
- Pamphlets available:
 - “Where Money & Spirituality Mix”
 - “AA Group Treasurer”
 - “AA Guidelines on Finance”
 - “AA Service Manual”