



Redistricting Ad-hoc Committee

What is the purpose of a District?

A district is a geographical unit containing the right number of groups – right in terms of the committee member's ability to keep in frequent touch with them, to learn their problems, and to find ways to contribute to their growth and well-being.

The number of groups per district varies widely, from as few as five in a rural district to 90 or more in a metropolitan district. Population density and the geographic size of the district, which will affect the ability of the DCM to communicate with the groups, would be key factors determining the number of groups a district will have.

~ excerpt A.A. Service Manual – pg. S31

A11 & D7 Definitions of a District

Area 11 Guidelines

- A geographical division within an Area, Divided into Sub-Districts, and Represented by D.C.M. Area 11 is divided into 13 geographical districts and 1 linguistic district.

District 7 Service Guidelines

- The District Service Committee conducts periodic meetings, generally once a month, in which the General Service Representatives (GSRs), representing the individual Groups of the District, participate to link his or her group to A.A. as a whole. This is a two-way communication, with the GSR reporting the Group's thoughts to District and bringing back to the Group knowledge about AA activities, including those that affect AA unity, health, and growth.

What are our issues?

Items that came up in our recent Inventory:

- Problems with communication between GSRs and DCMs
- Geographic area too large to be serviced adequately
- Too many groups for each DCM to cover
- Lack of participation/GSRs not sharing
- GSRs feel spoken to, as opposed to being a part of
- Structure not aligning with the Service Manual
- Not enough information on why being involved matters
- Some people feel that the District is unwelcoming & cliquey

Takeaways from Districts visited

- Groups and GSRs were prioritized
- Every single GSR was able to fully participate at District meetings
- DCMs chair the District meetings
- Service Committees were formed as needed, and GSRs were able to hold those positions
- Special service committees emailed reports and limited report backs
- Most District meetings were approximately 1 to 1.5 hours in duration

Overview of new Districts

Let's hear it from those that already did this!

- District 12 – Tyler (DCM)
- District 11 – John (GSR)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What about the Treasury?
 - a. *Other Districts which did this allocated existing funds based upon prior contribution history.*
2. What about lack of participation/unfilled positions?
 - a. *Experience has shown that participation increases in smaller Districts, and not all positions may be necessary for each new District.*
3. Which positions will be replicated?
 - a. *This will be up to each new District and their specific needs.*
4. What about the bank accounts/online contributions?
 - a. *Each new district would open their own new accounts. Online contributions via the website are extremely simple to arrange.*
5. What about Hartford?
 - a. *Hartford need not be a standalone District*

Q&A Time!

We will now take questions on the presentation.

Discussion will be deferred to next month's meeting, after you have spoken with your homegroups.

Our Recommendation

This committee recommends to redistrict District 7.

Addenda

Additional information regarding this Ad Hoc Committee

Procedures to Amend the Guidelines

X. Procedure to Amend the Guidelines:

1. A motion to amend the District 7 Guidelines may come from any member of the District Committee and may be submitted at any time during the year.
2. The motion must indicate the reasons for the proposed change, and the motion and reasons must be reduced to writing and presented to the Chairperson.
3. During the meeting in which the motion is made, there will be no discussion of the motion. The GSRs shall take the motion back to their groups for consideration.
4. At the following meeting, the motion will be brought up for discussion, after which the GSRs will again take the motion back to their Groups for further consideration.
5. At the third meeting, the motion, in the exact form decided upon at the second meeting, will be voted on. A 2/3 majority vote is required for approval of any changes to these Guidelines.