

Corrections Report, EPGSA Area 59 Panel 73

September 8, 2024

Quarterly Meeting, Q4 (Bensalem, PA)

Since the last Area meeting in June, the Area subcommittee Corrections met once on Zoom on Aug. 18. We review future events on the Area 59 calendar and determine who should bring exhibits to which events based on our geographic locations.

Since the last quarterly meeting we took an exhibit to a multi-district workshop in Morganstown on August 3rd and in Doylestown on August 24th. There will be many more events in the coming weeks.

On August 22, Angela J. Grannas contacted the committee. the Drug and Alcohol Program Manager in the Department of Corrections' Division of Treatment Services. He was concerned about vetting potential volunteers who brought meetings to state correctional facilities. We are scheduling a telephone meeting for August 28. The president of the SEPIA Prisons Committee also participated in the meeting. Ms. Grannas' main concern was the ability to obtain referrals from potential volunteers, in addition to the usual screening process that occurs when outside visitors are introduced to prisons. We explain that the Intergroups are the ones provided by the volunteers. Contrary to what she might have believed, there is no central directory where volunteers can be chosen. I did, however, tell him that I see no problem in asking the Intergroup for a referral from a sponsor or other fellow AA, as long as the prospective volunteer obtained that person's permission before violating their anonymity. Yesterday I provided him with a list of all the AA intergroups in Eastern Pennsylvania that he could contact when looking for volunteers.

by

Ruth Dubb, Chair, Subcommittee on Corrections