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This is **A.A.**

An introduction
to the A.A.
Recovery Program



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Frequently Asked Questions **About A.A.**



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Is A.A. for You?

TWELVE QUESTIONS
ONLY YOU CAN ANSWER



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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Young People in A.A.

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

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Women in **A.A.**



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*"The Twelve
Concepts for
World Service"*

*The
what?*



**The
Twelve
Concepts
for
World
Service**
illustrated



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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Behind the Walls: A Message of Hope



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HOW IT WORKS

Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with themselves. There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way. They are naturally incapable of grasping and developing a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty. Their chances are less than average. There are those, too, who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest.

Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now. If you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it — then you are ready to take certain steps.

At some of these we balked. We thought we could find an easier, softer way. But we

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The
A.A. Member —
Medications
&
Other Drugs

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The
Jack Alexander
Article About **A.A.**

The Article that Marked
a Milestone in the
History of A.A.

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Do you
think you're
different?

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Questions
&
on Answers
Sponsorship



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The A.A. Group

...where it all begins



How a group functions.
How to get started.

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A.A. Tradition

How It Developed

— by Bill W.

A tour of the historical
events that led to our
unique Twelve Traditions

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Inside **A.A.**

Understanding
the Fellowship and
its Services



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G.S.R. General Service Representative



Your group's link
to A.A. as a whole

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A Message
to
Corrections
Professionals...

Alcoholics Anonymous
wants to work with you

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

A.A. for the
Native North
American



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AA as
a Resource
for the
Health Care
Professional



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A
Newcomer
Asks



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**Faith
Leaders**
Ask About
Alcoholics
Anonymous

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Conference-approved literature.

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A.A. in
Correctional
Facilities



A.A. in Treatment Settings



The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

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How **A.A.** Members Cooperate with Professionals



Cooperation,
but not affiliation.

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Is There ^{an} Alcoholic in Your Life?

A.A.'s Message of Hope



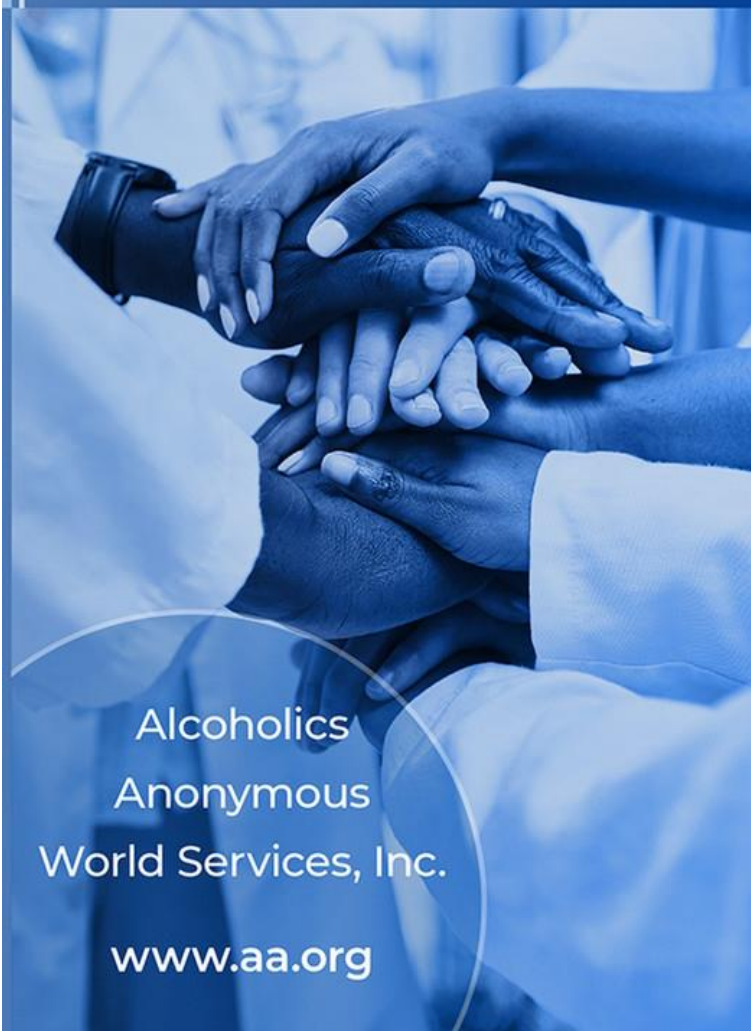
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A.A. in Your Community:

A GUIDE FOR PROFESSIONALS
WHO WORK WITH ALCOHOLICS



Alcoholics
Anonymous
World Services, Inc.

www.aa.org

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

LGBTQ Alcoholics in **A.A.**

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Conference-approved literature.

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**It Sure Beats
Sitting In A Cell**

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***Let's Be Friendly With
Our Friends:
Friends on the Alcoholism Front***

by **Bill W.**

WE ARE TOLD there are 4,500,000¹ alcoholics in America. Up to now, A.A. has sobered up perhaps 250,000² of them. That's about one in 20, or five percent of the total. This is a brave beginning, full of significance and hope for those who still suffer. Yet these figures show that we have made only a fair-sized dent on this vast world



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Problems other than alcohol

by **Bill W.**,
co-founder of
Alcoholics Anonymous



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Is A.A. for Me?



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Speaking
at Non-A.A.
Meetings



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A Member's- Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous



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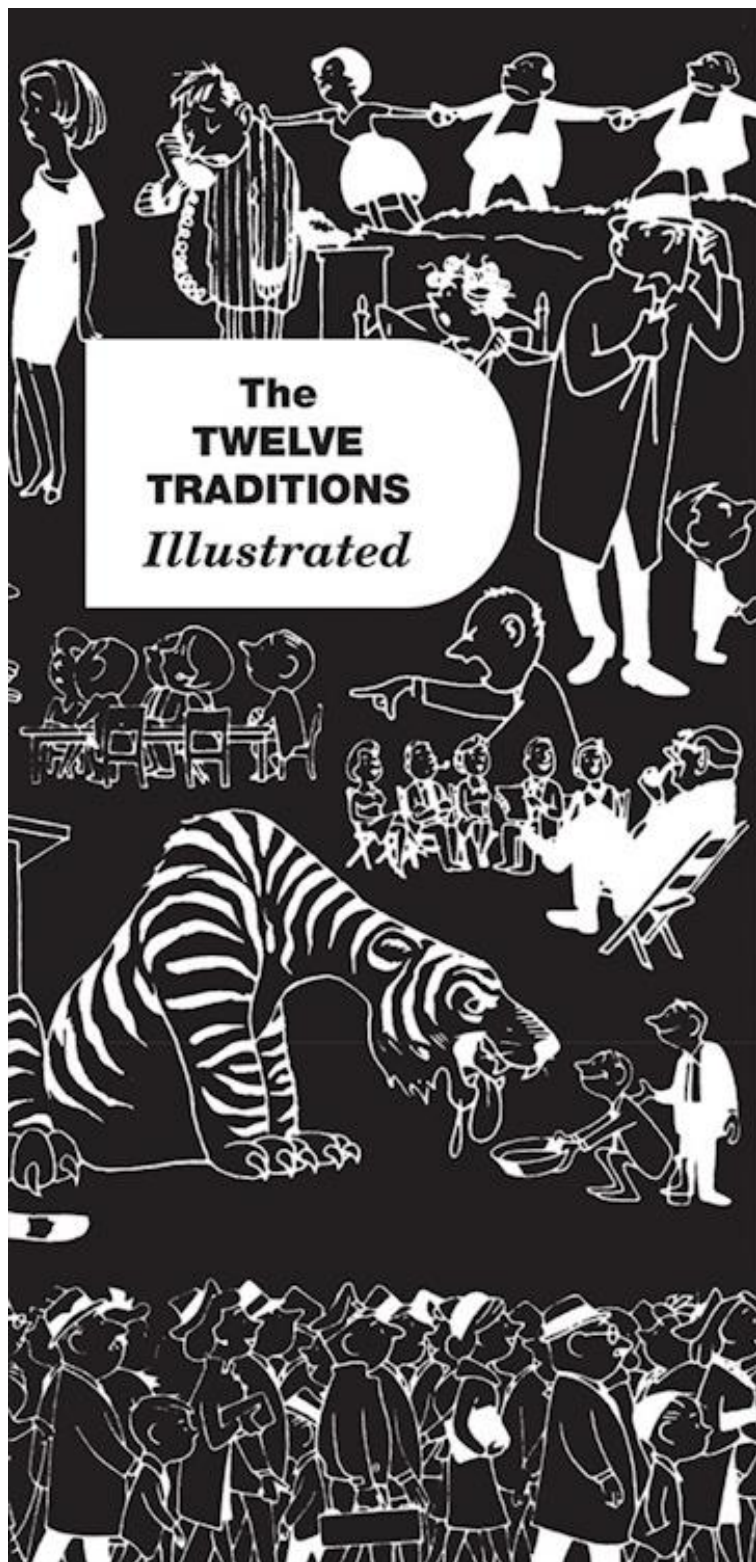
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A Brief Guide to A.A.



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Conference-approved literature

A.A.'s LEGACY OF SERVICE

BY BILL W.

What is the basic A.A. service?

The Fellowship's responsibility

The pioneers' battle for the Big Book

News stories and sudden A.A. growth

Beginnings of group and world services

Origin of the Twelve Traditions

G.S.O. today

Birth of the General Service Conference

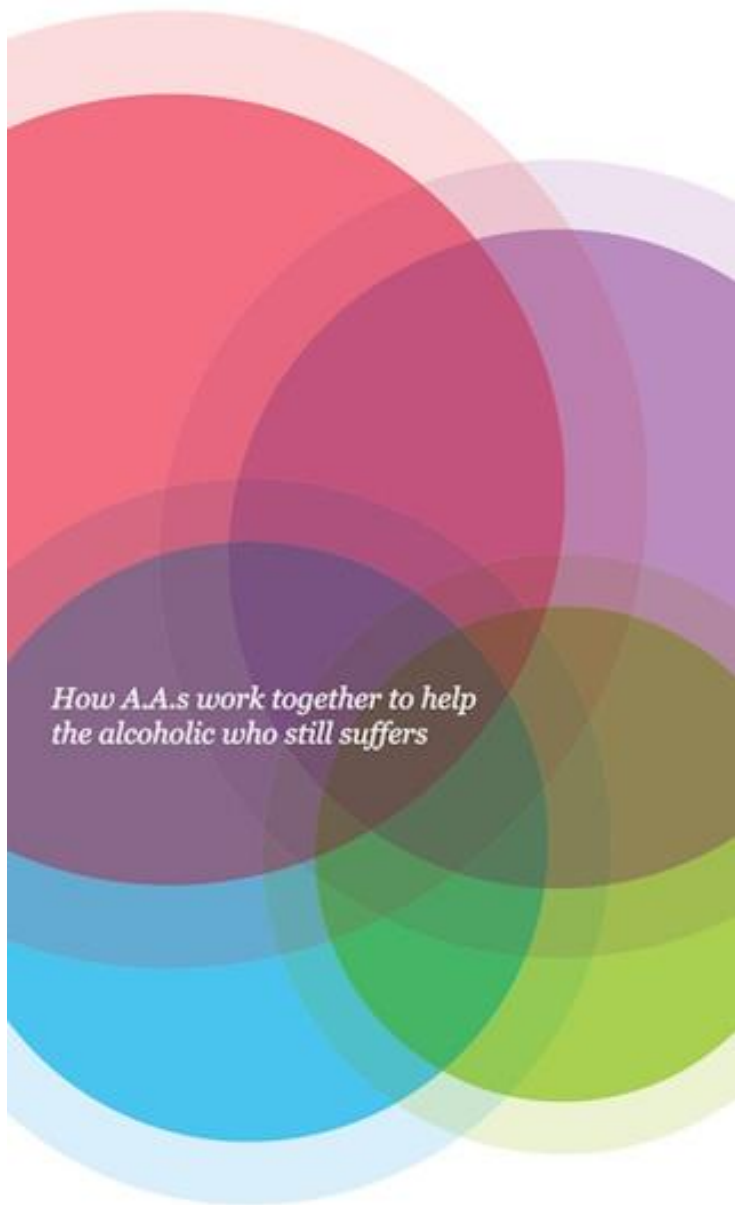
THIS IS A REPRINT FROM
"THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL"

The complete manual, an invaluable
guide in Fellowship activity, is available
from the General Service Office.

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Circles of Love and Service



*How A.A.s work together to help
the alcoholic who still suffers*

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If You Are a Professional...

Alcoholics Anonymous
wants to work
with you

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Understanding Anonymity



"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

2022 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY



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Bridging the GAP

Between
treatment and A.A.
through
contact programs



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A.A. *and the* ARMED SERVICES

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Black in A.A.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE



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Grapevine and La Viña:

Our Meetings in Print
and Other Media

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The Co-Founders of Alcoholics Anonymous



Biographical Sketches
and their Last Major Talks

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Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?



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The
**Twelve
Steps**
Illustrated



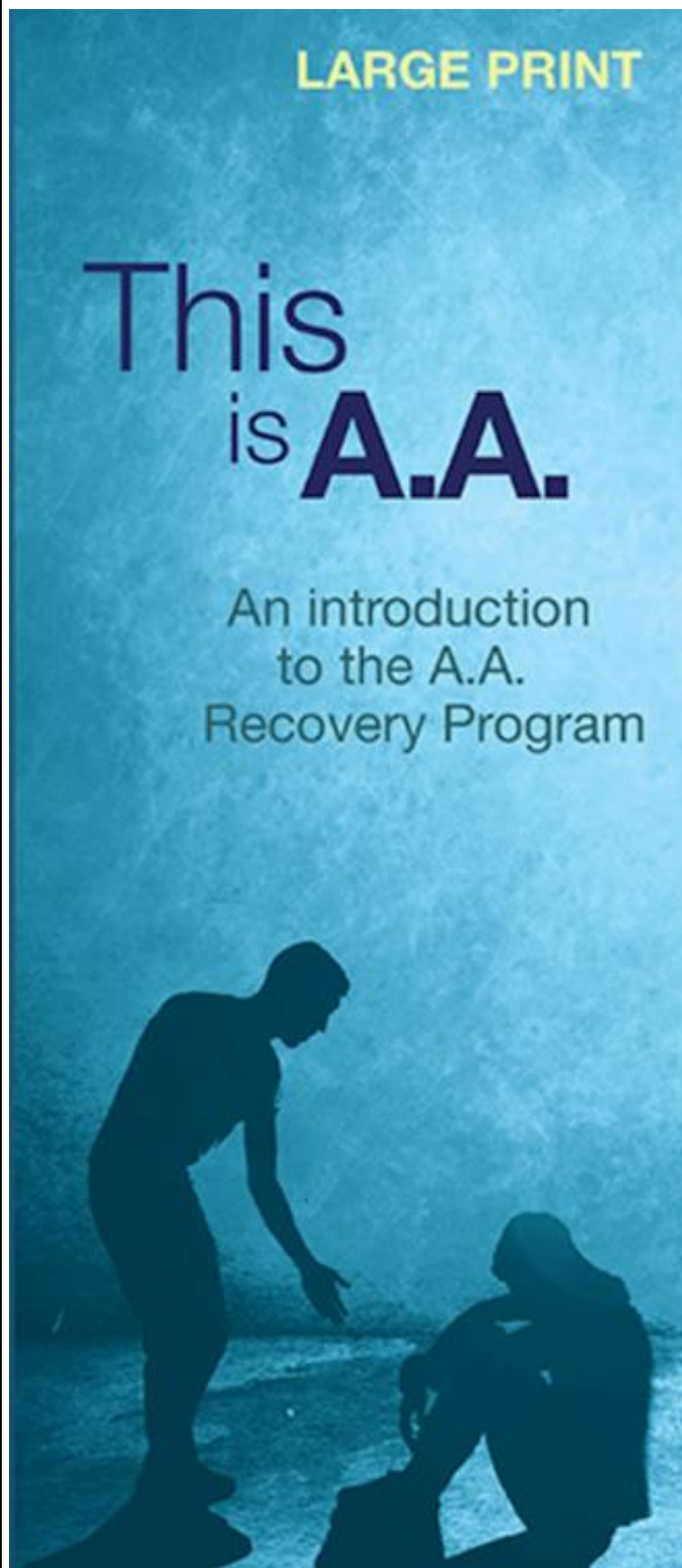
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LARGE PRINT

This
is **A.A.**

An introduction
to the A.A.
Recovery Program



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Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.



LARGE PRINT

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Access to A.A. Members share on overcoming barriers

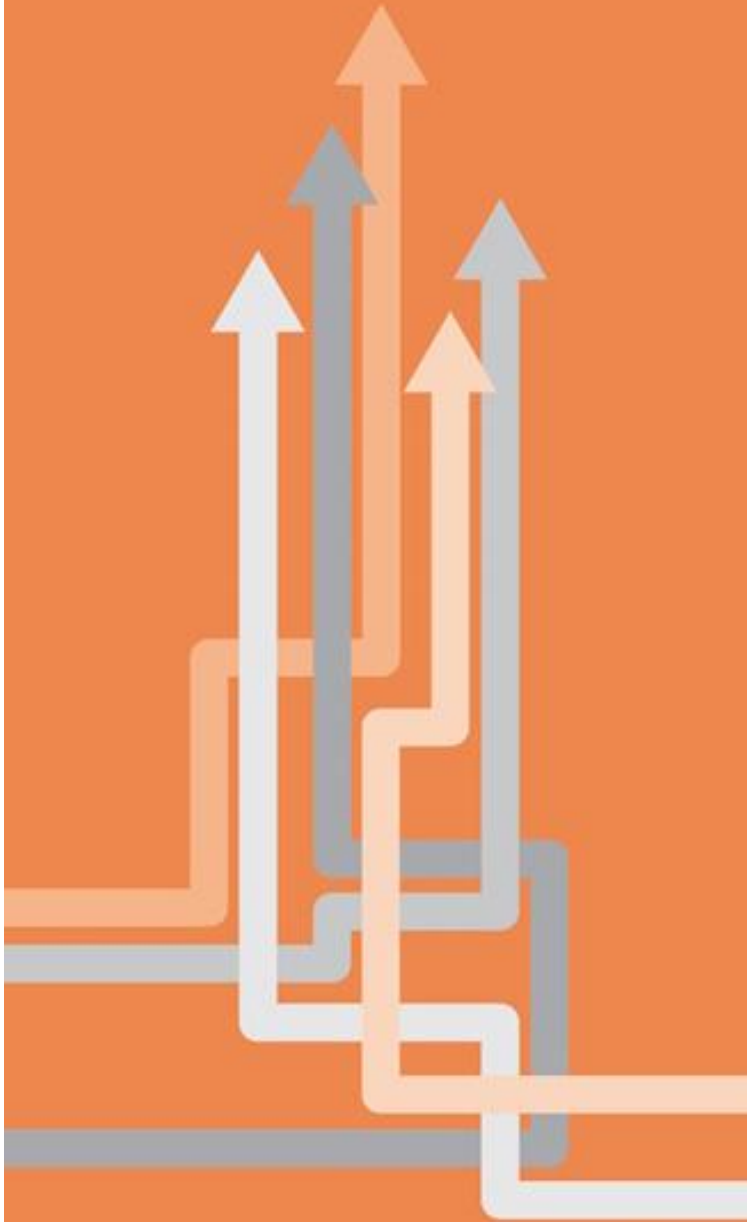


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Many Paths to Spirituality



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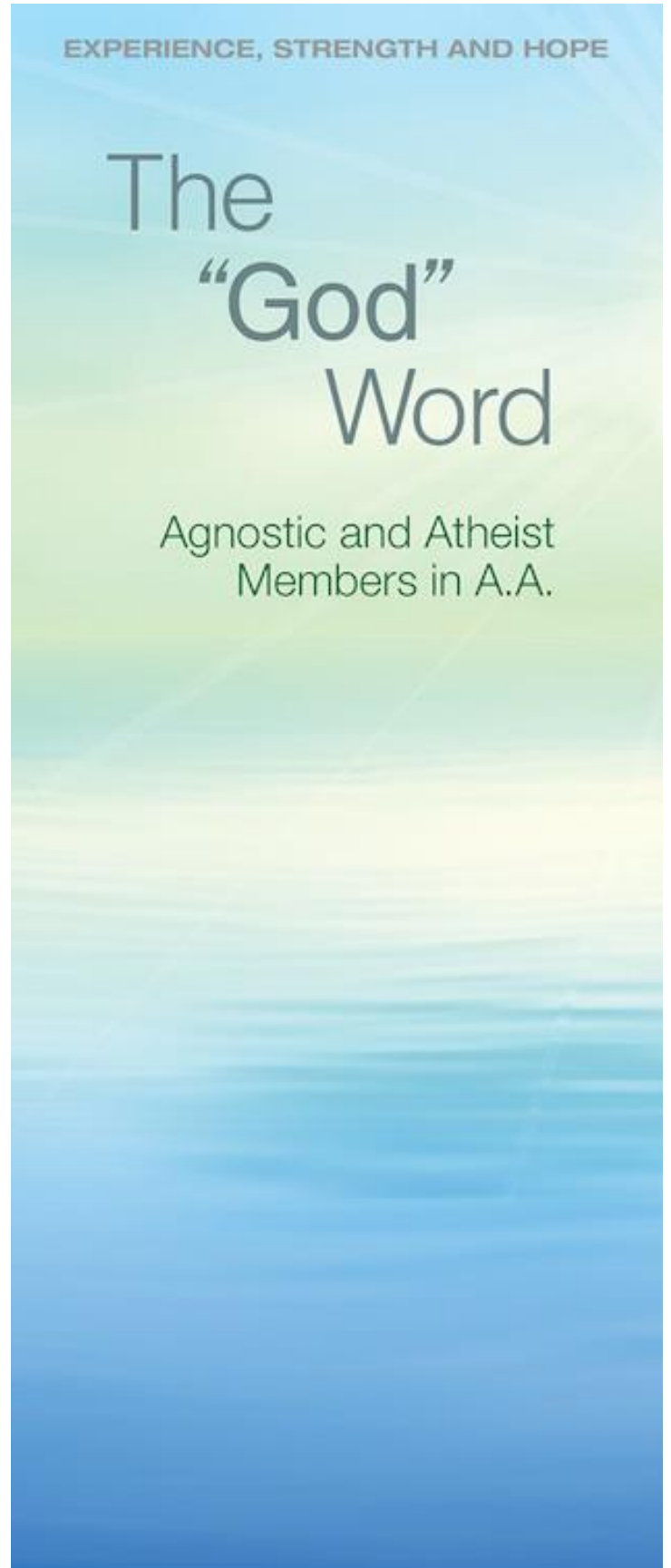
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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

The “God” Word

Agnostic and Atheist
Members in A.A.



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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

A.A. for
Alcoholics with
Mental Health
Issues

—and their
sponsors

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EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

Hispanic
Women
in **A.A.**



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**EXPERIENCE
Has Taught Us:**

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
OUR TWELVE TRADITIONS**



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A.A. for
the Older
Alcoholic

—Never too late

LARGE PRINT

F-1



www.aa.org

A.A. at a glance

What is A.A.?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a voluntary, worldwide fellowship of men and women from all walks of life who meet together to attain and maintain sobriety. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership.

Current Membership

It is estimated that there are over 120,000 groups and over 2,000,000 members in approximately 180 countries.

Relations with Outside Agencies

The Fellowship has adopted a policy of "cooperation but not affiliation" with other organizations concerned with the problem of alcoholism. We have no opinion on issues outside A.A. and neither endorse nor oppose any causes.

How A.A. is Supported

Over the years, Alcoholics Anonymous has affirmed and strengthened a tradition of being fully self-supporting and of neither seeking nor accepting contributions from nonmembers. Within the Fellowship, the amount that may be contributed by any individual member is limited to \$5,000 a year.

How A.A. Members Maintain Sobriety

A.A. is a program of total abstinence. Members simply stay away from one drink, one day at a time. Sobriety is maintained through sharing experience, strength and hope at group meetings and through the suggested Twelve Steps for recovery from alcoholism.

Why Alcoholics Anonymous Is "Anonymous"

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of A.A. It disciplines the Fellowship to govern itself by principles rather than personalities. We are a society of peers. We strive to make known our program of recovery, not individuals who participate in the program. Anonymity in the public media is assurance to all A.A.s, especially to newcomers, that their A.A. membership will not be disclosed.

(OVER)

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SELF-SUPPORT:

Where
Money &
Spirituality
Mix



F-4



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

“Where do I go from here?”

Soon you'll be back out there in the real world again. You'll find it's the same old world with the same old problems.

No matter where you live, you'll still have your full share of those problems. Plus the one problem that can make all the others seem a lot bigger than they really are.

You're not the only one who has come face to face with a drinking problem. There are about 2,000,000 of us who are not alone anymore.

Back in 1935, two men saw that alcohol had ruined their lives. They knew it would kill them if they didn't stop drinking. They wanted to stop, but couldn't do it alone.

Their families and friends and doctors couldn't do it for them. There was no personal loss or calamity big enough, no threat, treatment, or cure strong enough to make either of them stop drinking. Willpower didn't work, either. The countless and sincere promises they had made to themselves were broken over and over again—over that first drink.

Each of the two men had been diagnosed as hopeless alcoholics. Worse yet, they saw themselves as hopeless. Until they saw each other.

By strange coincidence, they met and began to share their common experience with alcohol. They found they understood each other's problems better than their families and friends and doctors did. This mutual understanding gave them the strength each desperately needed to pass up the first drink that had always paved the way to disaster.

(OVER)

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Carrying the Message Into Correctional Facilities

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Your **A.A.** General Service Office



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

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PROBLEMS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL *(excerpts)*

*by Bill W.,
co-founder of
Alcoholics Anonymous*

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

Your D.C.M.

District
Committee
Member

What is a D.C.M.?

The heart of A.A. is the group, which elects a general service representative (G.S.R.). The G.S.R. attends district meetings that are made up of the groups in that district. The G.S.R.s elect a district committee member (D.C.M.). Thus, the D.C.M. is the vital link between the group's G.S.R., and the area service structure, including the area's delegate to the General Service Conference.

Where does the D.C.M. come from?

G.S.R.s in each district usually elect their D.C.M.s. The qualifications for a good district committee member are not complicated: background in A.A. service work that

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1501/1515/1501

“But we
do have
expenses...”

When you “put money in the basket”

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Corrections Correspondence

—a special kind
of A.A. Service

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*“History,” wrote Thomas Carlyle, “is the
essence of innumerable biographies.”*

*Perhaps nothing better sums up
A.A. history than the millions of personal
stories of recovery that come together
as a priceless legacy in*

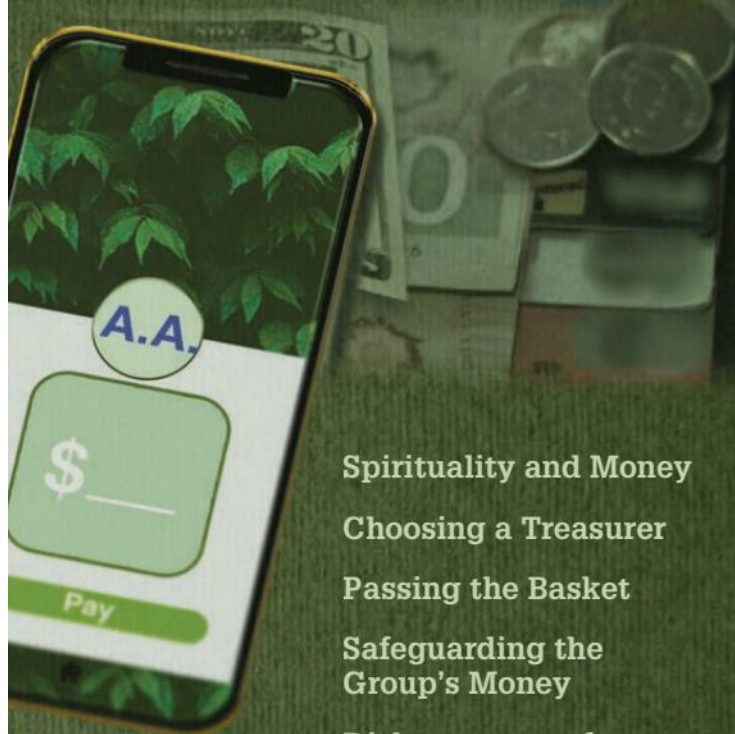
THE A.A.
ARCHIVES

SERVICE PRINCIPLE

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The A.A. Group Treasurer



Spirituality and Money
Choosing a Treasurer
Passing the Basket
Safeguarding the
Group's Money
Disbursement of
a Group's Funds
Treasurer Reports
Prudent Reserve
Opening a
Bank Account/Tax ID
Insurance
Additional Resources
for Group Treasurers

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SERVING ALL ALCOHOLICS

**Making the A.A. Message
Accessible**

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For AAs on the



**A.A. CORRECTIONS
PRERELEASE
CONTACT INFORMATION**

CONNECTING
INSIDE A.A. MEMBERS
TO THE OUTSIDE
A.A. COMMUNITY

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For AAs on the



**A.A. CORRECTIONS
PRERELEASE
CONTACT INFORMATION**

CONNECTING
INSIDE A.A. MEMBERS
TO THE OUTSIDE
A.A. COMMUNITY

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**A.A. TEMPORARY CONTACT/
BRIDGING THE GAP
REQUEST**

CONNECTING
INSIDE A.A. MEMBERS
TO THE OUTSIDE
A.A. COMMUNITY

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**A.A. TEMPORARY CONTACT/
BRIDGING THE GAP
VOLUNTEER**

CONNECTING
INSIDE A.A. MEMBERS
TO THE OUTSIDE
A.A. COMMUNITY

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This is service material prepared by the General Service Office

Safety and A.A. flyer

*A.A. groups are made up of alcoholics who
gather for the sole purpose of staying
sober and helping other alcoholics
to achieve sobriety.*

Safety is a topic within A.A. that groups and members may need to address to help ensure the ability to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Our Twelve Traditions provide a set of principles to help guide us, and the additional shared experience pertaining specifically to safety provided in this service piece may be helpful if challenges arise at in-person or virtual settings.