

Hawaii Area 17 - 2018 Inventory Questions Group Responses

Group 1 Bob H., Group 2 Linda McD., Group 3 Vernon, Group 4 Ken K., Group 5 Scott C., Group 6 Phil.

1.What Is The Purpose of Area?

- A conduit for information from the groups,through GSRs through District to Area to GSO and back.
- To keep the unity in AA
- To provide perspective and overview to standing committees.
- Help alcoholics stay sober.
- Carry the message.
- Conduite of information to the groups.
- Protect Alcoholics Anonymous - Door never have locks on them.
- Put on Assembly on a regular basis.
- Promote unity to show we are unified. Without unity we would only stay in the District.
- Elect our Delegate
- Keep the doors open.
- [helps us] Carry the message to alcoholics, hospitals prisons, etc.through committees' and individuals.
- Connect and prepare Delegate for General Service Conference.Delegate carries the voice of the Area.
- Our voices make a difference. Example pamphlet for atheist.
- Informs the Delegate for the General Service Conference.
- Carry the message to Districts, Groups, Area, General Service Office.
- Primary purpose is service.
- Bring service structure to life.
- Voice to General Service Office.
- Direction comes from General Service Office.
- Conduit between District & Area (two-way).
- Connectors of information.
- Fit ourselves to e of maximum service to God and the people around us Alcoholic Anonymous, page 77.
- Preserve and maintain the message of Alcoholics Anonymous by responding to members and maintaining consistency.
- Service.

- Institutional memory o Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Conduit of communication from the Group to the General Service Office.
- It's a Vote at the General Service Conference through our Delegate.
- Foster excitement & desire in Alcoholics Anonymous group members to participate.

1.Are We Fulfilling That Purpose?

Consensus: Yes.

Panel Feedback: Continue educating group (level) members. Singleness of purpose protects AA.

- We are fulfilling that purpose IF we have a General Service Representative (GSR) and District Committee Member (DCM) is active in passing and receiving the information.
- More education.
- More communication is better to fulfill our purpose. Example: Delegate report backs covered many areas, make information available.
- Fulfilling to best of our ability as individuals.
- Some groups are not.
- Inform individuals of what Area service is (structure and application)
- More workshops by Groups and Districts.
- More sharing events at the Area Level.
- Area Workshops.
- Former Area Chair hosts study of service manual on Maui.
- Not everyone is able to say what Area does.
- Intergroup would like more visibility from Area officers/representatives.
- Yes, room for improvement.
- Mostly, yes.
- Being fulfilled the best we can.
- Regarding Unity - are we represented?
- Some bleeding deacons rigidly oppose air travel.
- We must explain what Area Does, what's It's value? Can we get more excitement?
- Some members want to serve drunks only not the Area and that's okay.

2.Does the AA fellowship know about the value and purpose of Area's work?

Consensus: No the AA fellowship does not know about the value and purpose of Area's work.

- General consensus is Area is doing OK.
- Most members are interested in their own sobriety and not so much in general service, except those who have had experience in general service.
- The efficacy of our communication (the ability to produce a desired or intended result) is dependant on the diligence of the General Service Representatives (GSR) and District Committee Members (DCM) in gathering and then passing on the information.
- 5% of the AA fellowship know about the value and purpose of Area's work.
- Not at all.
- Education deficit.
- Some groups may have good knowledge base.
- The Area has to meet and discuss to get an idea of the whole Area.
- Not all groups are interested in general service. We can provide information but may not affect their role or interest.
- Area acts for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous
- For the most part, the fellowship is ignorant to Area's purpose and value of what is required to function at the Area level.
- Most of the AA fellowship do not know about the value and purpose of Area's work.
- Effective communication with homegroups and the fellowship is not too effective.

2.How effective are we with communicating with the homegroups and fellowship?

Consensus: No, we are not effective with communicating with the homegroups and fellowship.

Panel feedback: effective outgoing but not effective coming back.

- General consensus is Area is doing OK.
- Communication is very good (Assemblies).
- Lots of fluctuation no consistency
- Communication is personalities not principles at times.
- No. A lot of newcomers.
- Need to take skits into facilities.
- Need to share what's magical about general service.
- Role play when making announcements at district meetings.
- Be more creative in carrying the message like Area PI committee.

3.Is Area Service Attractive Enough to Encourage More Participation From The Groups In Hawaii Area?

Consensus: Area IS attractive enough to encourage more participation from the groups in Hawaii Area.

Panel feedback: Travel cost is too much. GSRs responsibility. Service manual ought to be available at group meetings.

- Area service is mostly attractive.
- No, travel cost being prohibitive for all groups participation.
- Over all the Area officers and the active members are warm and welcoming and enriching to the sobriety of all involved.
- The active members are warm, welcoming and enriching to the sobriety of all involved.
- All services in Alcoholics Anonymous is whatever you make it.
- General Service Representative make attractive the opportunities and awards.
- Attraction depends on who is representing the service.
- Area rotates assemblies and committee meetings.
- Assemblies are attractive in the enthusiasm of service representatives, environment.
- Maui standing committees are not supported.
- Back up committee meetings with service events since no or little extra cost. Furthermore, it would bring attention to Area.
- Service is not for everyone; can't make it attractive to all.
- Inform people about what you do in the Area and why it's good.
- Area service is attractive thru rotation of General Service Representative to District Committee Member and panel members.
- Area service is not attractive enough because outer island of Kauai has not much representation at Area.
- Area service is not attractive enough and there is room for improvement.
- Attractive to a certain type of people.
- Not enough shared for it to be attractive.
- Have service manual available at group meetings.
- Attractive because we're self-supporting.
- Not attractive because information not being shared.
- Attractive but geographical disadvantaged to maximize attractiveness of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Motives of Area and people are attractive.
- Not enough workshops.
- Too time consuming to fully make it attractive.
- Need to put more responsibility on sponsors.
- Attractive not frequently so not effective.

- Debunk [expose the falseness] air travel barrier.
- Share the personal rewards and spiritual gifts of service.
- Invite old timers to participate.
- Personally recruit with feeling.
- Sponsors suggest sponsees get into general service.
- Jump into general service at retirement.
- Enlighten our friends one on one.

4. Is the Area doing enough to carry the message?

Consensus: Yes, Area is doing enough to carry the message.

- Area is sufficiently active.
- We can do better.
- More service workshops.
- District workshop could address “How to Carry the Message”
- Announce at homegroups where the dollar in the basket goes.
- District workshops that are fun.
- Area is not doing enough to carry the message - room for improvement.
- Area is doing enough to carry the message.
- Don't settle for “enough”
- Area is doing everything such as website, handouts, assemblies, email.
- New technologies.
- District important in helping to get message out from Area.
- Committees communicate by carrying the message outwardly such as Senior Fair, Medical and Health Professionals and General public.

4. Should the Area get more active?

Consensus: Yes area can get more active.

Panel feedback: Workshops. Increase technology.

- Always room for improvement.
- A lot more can be done.
- More social media.
- Standing committees chairs could be more communicative with groups and committees members.
- Not enough sharing at the group level about Area.
- Feels like groups need to do more.
- Area provides information thru links, not to individuals directly.

- Service workshops

5. Has Area done enough to explain to the groups in the Hawaii Area the value of the 7th Tradition and its contribution to Area?

Consensus: No, Area has not done enough to explain to the groups in the Hawaii Area the value of the 7th Tradition and its contributions to Area.

Panel feedback: Lack of participation by DCMs and GSRs. Autonomy can impact 7th tradition

- Mostly yes - The budget report is extensive.
- No, because people who are not sure of what Area do do not understand why we are spending money on Area or what Area is spending money on and why.
- Comes up only at the Budget Assembly.
- We have the Area Structures & Guidelines.
- Area does not explain to groups - only through GSR's do,
- Some groups are still concerned about the recent passing of the budget.
- GSRs were emailed about contributing to the Area and GSO.
- Lacks clarity.
- Communicate better to the GSR.
- Autonomy of group can impact contributions to Area, GSO and District.
- Lack of involvement at Area level.
- NO.
- DCMs are responsible to inform GSRs and groups about contributions and then share the Area budget.
- 7th Tradition includes going to assemblies.
- Support means participating with a vote.
- Standing Committee can do projects that are visible to all.
- Monies go to publishing.

6. Is the Area making general service more attractive to the fellowship?

Consensus: Yes Area is making general service more attractive to the fellowship.

- Yes, but can improve all the time.
- As an Area, most members don't know us. What our vision? What's are mission?
- We need to follow-through.
- It's attractive to us, just not enough.
- Sharing Information effectively is Area's mission.

6. Should the Area do more?

Consensus: Yes, Area should [continue] to do more.

Panel feedback: Workshops, Jeopardy.

- Working harder on making General Service more attractive could improve Area's communication with Intergroups, Round-Ups, Convention, Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous.
- All day workshops.
- Bring a friend to district meeting.
- Share experience when attending off island assemblies - bring back to your group.
- Always more we can do.
- Area should do a masquerade Assembly.

7.Are Area efforts to cooperate with Intergroups, Round-Ups, Conventions, Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (*YPAAS), AI-Anon, etc. sufficient?

Consensus: Yes, Area's efforts to cooperate with Intergroups, Round-Ups, Conventions, Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (YPAAs), AI-Anon, etc. is sufficient.

Panel Feedback: Area needs a stronger connection with YPAA. Suggestions through flyers, workshops that DCMs ought to attend, Area website.

- Evenly divided into yes, no and don't know. The don't knows were not aware of what that contact was.
- Efforts to cooperate was sufficient.
- Convention level has information booth for Area.
- Delegate was at Hiccupaa.
- Convention follows Area Guide.
- YPAA on Kauai
- We need to connect more with Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (YPAAs).

8.Is our Area fellowship aware of and fully informed of our priority of spending and how that relates to our primary purpose.

Consensus: No, our Area fellowship is not aware of and fully informed of our priority of spending and how that relates to our primary purpose.

Panel Feedback: Takes time to carry the message. Track how the Area carries the message about the priority of spending and how that relates to our primary purpose to the groups.

- Majority(11 to 5) did not know the priority of spending. Bob informed (reminded) us of that priority.
- No
- We need to talk about it.
- Workshops help.

- Fund our Delegate.
- Fund the Assembly.
- Fund the Standing Committees
- Yes, varies by group.
- [Adds] Strength and experience of each GSR.
- Most don't know most priorities.
- 3 out of 18 don't know.

9. Is the Area providing GSRs with the proper orientation & tools to help them in their service position?

Consensus: Yes, the Area provides GSRs with the proper orientation & tools to help them in their service position.

Panel Feedback: GSRs want to know what their job is. Have a webinar for the newbies. Need to address late comer education.

- Unanimously, yes with assistance of a service sponsor, there was some confusion about standing committees)
- Get packet from Orientation Assembly.
- Assemblies have roundtables.
- Box 459 has nuggets from from GSO.
- GSR School - learn hands on rather than read the literature during the 2 day assembly/convention break-out session.
- Not arranged currently for GSRs to get more information on services.
- It the GSRs responsibility to know what's involved. Reach out for help.

10. Are our Area Committees set-up and functioning in ways that are helpful for all districts in Hawaii?

Consensus: Yes, the Area Committees are set-up, but NOT functioning in ways that are helpful for all districts in Hawaii.

- Evenly divided between yes, no and a few "I don't know". The difficulty of the nos' was, after seeking help from Area Area did not respond.
- Area committees help the local district chairs.
- Standing committee chairs are not GSRs. They are conduits from Area to carry to the message.

10. Are the Standing Committees fulfilling their purpose?

- There was some confusion about standing committees

10. In what ways can the committee be more effective?

Panel feedback: Bridge the gap between the group, district and Area for better flow of information. Reevaluate the purpose, and function of the Standing Committees. Better hand off of position. Educate to be more effective in the position.

- Allow people to serve. Ask for help - but is “difficult”
- Ask GSR to spread the word.
- GSRs attend meetings.
- DCMs could share with others the geographic challenges.

11. Are we still divided even after a vote has not gone our way?

Consensus: No, we are not divided even after a vote has not gone our way.

- We are not divided even after a vote has not gone our way.

11. Are we supporting the group conscience?

Consensus: Yes, we support the group conscience.

- We support our group conscience with as much grace as we can muster.
- We support the group conscience

11. When we report back to our group, do we do it in a neutral even-handed manner or do we shade the report with our opinion?

Consensus: Yes, when we report back to our group, we do it in a neutral even-handed manner. We do not shade the report with our opinion.

- We report back to our group in a neutral even-handed manner for newcomers to understand.

12. As Area members, do we trust in our Higher Power, the group conscience, and our other trusted servants, or do we engage in “politicking”?

Consensus: Yes, we trust in our Higher Power, the group conscience, and our other trusted servants. No, we do not engage in “politicking”.

- Unanimously we trust in our Higher Power, the group conscience and our other trusted servants.
- No, we do not engage in politicking.
- Hopefully, not engaging in campaigning, let HP guide through group conscience.

12. How can we avoid placing personalities before principles?

Panel feedback: Big book, High Power, Demonstrate trust, spiritual Principles, Third legacy.
Minority opinion is vital.

- Demonstrate the importance of trust.