

Hawaii Area 17
Alcoholics Anonymous General Service
Standing Committee Report

Date: September 7-8, 2024 Budget Assembly

Standing Committee: Corrections

Person reporting and position: (Mike L., Corrections Committee Chair)

Thanks to District 4 here on O`ahu and everyone who helped hold this Budget Assembly.

The Corrections Committee coordinates the service work to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic who is confined in a corrections or correctional facility. We meet virtually on the First Monday of every month at 4:30 – 5:30 PM. Meeting code: 820 8005 1814; Pass code: 566 874. Our meeting is not only for the GSR members assigned to the Corrections Committee, but also those AAs who have been going into the correctional facilities, and those who might be interested in 12-Step work to reach alcoholics who are in custody.

There are some challenges we need to deal with. There has been a problem on Big Island getting AA volunteers approved to bring in AA meetings. Big Island and Maui still have trouble getting trainings scheduled for those who want to take meetings into their facilities, as well as recurrent trainings. Maui also had people take the training, but their background checks have yet to be approved. There has been an ongoing problem with getting approvals from Oahu.

On the bright side, Kaua`i had a Volincor training and got A.A. members approved to go in. On O`ahu, there are some people who bring in a meeting to the federal facility at Ford Island. Another person is seeing veterans through the Federal Court Veterans treatment program. Oahu has VolinCor Trainings monthly. We were able to provide a case of Big Books and some literature to the Chaplain at the O`ahu Community Correctional Center to be distributed to persons in custody there.

There are opportunities to do 12-Step work besides taking an A.A. meeting into a facility. The Corrections Correspondence program links Outside A.A. members to alcoholics in custody, with matches arranged through GSO. A man on O`ahu recently got a match with an inmate in the mainland. For those willing to contact someone who is about to be released into your community in the near future, please talk to me about the Pre-Release Contact Program.

There is an annual National Corrections Conference, which will be held in Charlotte, NC November 8-10, 2024. There is also a weekly International Corrections Committee virtual meeting on Sundays.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions for the Corrections Committee. Thank you for letting me be of service. – Mike L.