

# 2023-24 Hawaii Area 17 Inventory - (Final)

**Clear-cut directions** to prepare for our 2023-2024 Hawaii Area Inventory and to better prepare us "spiritually" for the Inventory Assembly on January 20-21, 2024.

- **Page 1 and Page 2: Complete BEFORE attending the Inventory Assembly:**
  - The “Suggested Readings” below.
  - Answer the personal inventory questions on *page 2*, "An Inventory on Service and My Commitment to Service”.
- **Page 3-6: Will be completed AT the assembly:** To further prepare us spiritually on the day of the assembly, we will have time to sit quietly and take inventory of our specific service positions.
  - GSR - General Service Representative, *page 3*
  - DCM - District Committee Member, *page 4*
  - Area SCC - Standing Committee Chairs, *page 5*
  - Area Officers, *page 6*
- **Page 7 & 8 Complete BEFORE the Area Inventory Assembly:** to prepare for participation in the discussion process at the Inventory Assembly:
  - All members, please review and complete the AREA Inventory Questions and bring your responses to the Inventory Assembly where we will have an opportunity to participate in the inventory discussion process.
  - GSRs, please present the AREA portion of the inventory questions to your home groups for feedback and bring the feedback to the Inventory Assembly to also participate in the inventory discussion process.
- **The inventory results** will hopefully show us what’s working and what isn’t, allowing us to make modifications and implement new procedures within the area to serve Hawaii Area 17 better.

## **Suggested Readings:**

- “Structure and Guidelines for Area 17 General Service.” Panel 73
- AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service. (2021-2023 Edition)
  - *Bill W’s excellent essay article “Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need” (page 37)*
  - *Review Intro and Concepts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 12.*
- Read the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, *especially...*
  - *Steps 3 & 4 (pp. 60–71)*
  - *Step 10 (pp. 84–85)*
  - *Chapter 8 and Chapter 9.*
- Read Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, *especially...*
  - *Step 4, Step 6, Step 7, Step 10, Step 12*
  - *Tradition 1, Tradition 2, Tradition 9, and Tradition 12.*
- Read the Traditions Checklist from *The AA Grapevine*.
- Read AA Pamphlets, especially DCM, GSR, and The A.A. Group... where it all begins.
- Remember: “*Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people around us*” *Page 77, Alcoholics Anonymous*

# **An Inventory on Service and My Commitment to Service**

***Personal Inventory Questions: Please complete before the Inventory Assembly.***

1. Why am I in Service? Is it ego? Is it a desire to carry the message? Both? Why did I stand for the position I serve today?
2. Do I regularly do an inventory of myself and my motives in regard to my service work?
3. Am I familiar with the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts? Do I work to apply them not only in my service position but in all of my affairs?
4. Am I responsible in my service position?
  - Do I know what my duties are?
  - Do I practice Step Ten's suggestion – "love and tolerance of others is our code" in carrying out these duties?
  - Do I ask for help when I see that I am unable to fulfill my duties?
  - Do I perform my duties in a timely manner or do I find that I have a pattern of procrastination?
5. Am I working towards Bill W's suggestion of accepting criticism from others with grace while keeping an open mind on their comments?
6. Do I accept the group conscience? Do I work to carry it out or do I feel a need to push for my point of view?
7. Do I hold AA's unity as a high priority in my service work?
8. Am I conscious of my motives, my tone of voice, and my body language when I am doing service work?
9. Am I humble, or do I feel that my position in AA service work (or the number of years I have been in service or the number of years I have been sober) entitles me to certain things?
  - Do I use my service position to gain power or to influence
10. Do I allow other "trusted servants" serving in AA to grow into their job, or am I quick to criticize?
11. Are my offers of "help" a disguise for stepping in and controlling?
12. Do I trust my Higher Power no matter what?

**An Inventory of My Service Position Work**  
**GSR (General Service Representative)**

*This portion will be completed at the assembly.*

1. How am I reporting back to my groups the issues discussed at the Area or my District?
  - Am I reporting back in an even-handed manner, presenting the pros and the cons on the issue (to the point that no one in my group would be able to guess where I stand on the issue) or do I present my position on the issue in a favorable light and down play other positions?
  
2. Am I responsible as a GSR?
  - Do I attend my group's business meeting (or home group) meetings?
  - If I cannot make an Area or District meeting do I take the responsibility of making sure my alternate GSR or another representative from my group will be there?
  
3. Do I make regular announcements at my group's AA meetings informing the group about the work that Area and District are doing to carry the message?
  
4. Do I know what my role is in my group conscience?
  
5. Have I read the AA Service Manual, and if I have questions, ask them?
  - Am I familiar with the "Right of Decision," "Right of Participation," and "Right of Appeal" philosophies expressed in the Concepts?
  
6. Can I clearly explain AA's service structure and how it works to members of my group?

**An Inventory on My Service Position Work**  
**DCM (District Committee Member)**  
*This portion will be completed at the assembly.*

1. Do I reach out to all the groups in my area, especially groups who do not have a GSR?
  - Do I attend the groups' AA meetings and business (or home group) meetings and talk about the responsibilities of general service work?
  
2. What additional steps could I suggest to the District to help the GSRs become familiar with the AA Service Manual, Box 4-5-9, the 12 Traditions, the 12 Concepts, the Guidelines from GSO, and other Conference-approved literature?
  
3. How can I improve my communications with my alternate DCM?
  - Do I delegate work and authority to my alternate DCM?
  - How can I better inform my alternate and share enough information with them so they could easily step into the position if I could no longer serve as DCM?
  
4. How do I report back to my District the issues discussed at the Area Committee Meeting?
  - Am I reporting back in an even-handed manner, presenting the issue's pros and cons (to the point that no one in my District would be able to guess where I stand on the issue)? Or do I present my position on the issues in a favorable light and downplay other positions?
  - How can I better orient new GSRs on their position, responsibilities, and role in District and Area meetings and bring them up to speed on issues discussed at the next Area meeting?
  
5. What can I do to help the GSRs make interesting reports to their groups about District and Area's work?
  - What can I do to encourage GSR to bring members of their group to District meetings?
  
6. When I leave this position, will I be able to say that the District is more unified, more active in carrying the message, more informed in AA's history, current Conference topics, and service structure than when I first took the position?

**An Inventory on My Service Position Work**  
**Area SCC (Standing Committee Chair)**  
*This portion will be completed at the assembly.*

1. What else can I do as the standing committee chair, to serve all the islands and every District in Hawaii?
2. What additional steps can I take to encourage every group in the state to have a representative on my committee?
3. What else can I do to ensure my committee is adequately informed on the priorities the groups want us to accomplish?
4. Is prudent fiscal responsibility a priority in my committee's spending decisions?
5. Do I delegate work and authority among my committee members, or do I feel that only I am qualified to do certain things?
6. What else can I do, as the chair of my committee, to have the enthusiasm and knowledge to organize and give the committee direction and incentive?

## **An Inventory on My Service Position Work**

### **Area Officers**

*This portion will be completed at the assembly.*

1. What else can I do to promote growth and harmony in our fellowship? What else can I do to inform the Area about the conference structure and the current issues now being discussed?
  
2. Have I reviewed and done a personal inventory of my performance of my duties, as defined by the Hawaii Area Structures and Guidelines and in the AA Service Manual? If I need help, do I ask for it?
  
3. What steps am I taking to let the groups and the Districts know I am readily available to the fellowship to offer them my experience, strength, and hope?
  
4. Do I constantly keep in mind Bill W's advice to Trusted Servants:
  - "Our leaders do not drive by mandate: they lead by example."
  - "A leader in AA service is a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job."
  - "Good leadership originates plans, policies and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its service" but also "remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better and it will give credit to the source."
  - "Good leadership never passes the buck."
  
5. What steps am I taking to work on the important aspects of having "the ability to compromise cheerfully: and, at the same time, knowing when it is "truly necessary to stick flat-footed to one's convictions about an issue until it is settled"?
  
6. Who am I? The "elder statesman" or the "bleeding beacon", as Bill W. writes in Tradition Two in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:

"The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is one who is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him, who constantly connives for reelection to office, and who continues to be consumed by self-pity."

## 2023-24 Hawaii AREA 17 Inventory Questions

1. What is the purpose of Area? Are we fulfilling that purpose?
2. How effective is the Area communication with the groups, districts, and the rest of the service structure as a whole? How can we do better?
3. Is the Area making general service more attractive to the fellowship? What more can Area do?
4. Is our “Area Structure and Guidelines for Area 17 General Service” booklet a helpful service tool? Does anything need to be amended, added, or changed?
5. When Area 17 meets, do we get work done in a timely manner? Do we need more time? Less time? How could we improve?
6. Is the Area providing the GSRs with the proper orientation & tools to help them in their service position? How can the area attract more GSRs to attend the Area Assemblies?

## Continued... **2023-24 Hawaii AREA 17 Inventory Questions**

7. Do we emphasize the importance of Service Sponsorship? How can we do better?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What is the overall purpose of our Area Standing Committees? How effective are the Area Standing Committees? Are our Area Standing Committees set up and functioning in ways that are helpful for all districts in Hawaii? How can they improve?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Do all members understand minority opinion and its importance to the Area?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What could we accomplish with the excess funds that the area has accumulated, and how should we use those funds?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. Is our area website easy to navigate? What changes would you like to see?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. Do you have additional comments, suggestions, or feedback? What would you like to see the area do in 2024?