

# 2025-2026 Hawaii Area 17 Inventory

## A. Area Purpose and Focus

### 1. How well does the Hawaii Area Assembly body support all islands and districts in carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers?

Group A)

Area does well in:

- a. Rotating Assemblies and events on different islands and locations
- b. The Budgeting
- c. Standing Committee members are designed methodically that all members of committee are from different islands.
- d. Each standing committee member goes back to their district to report does not have a committee chair in the district (vaant district chairs)
- e. Rely on our District (DCM) to to provide information they need to take back to groups.
- f. Individual/Chairs/Members... their presence is important.
- g. Area provides personal support and monetary support: Helps to support officers and activities.

Group a)

We think it fairly well. Area carries the message through communication up the body's triangle through Standing Committee Chairs, DCMs, GSRs, A17 Web page Access, Assemblies, and workshops. Also, making available what to take back bullets points.

We feel there need to be better communication and commitment in carrying the message up the triangle to the home groups. Following up to make sure the message has been carried.

### 2. Are the Committees goals and initiatives aligned with the primary purpose of AA and the unique needs of our fellowship?

Group A)

Yes.

- a. Providing information to the entire body
- b. Figuring out how we can help
  - a. Groups in rural Communities
  - b. Archives identified a need to interview Kupunas because all stories need to be preserved
  - c. That brings unity too
  - d. We are unique because we are a Rural Area

### 3. Do members feel the Committee provides clear guidance, and resources to groups and trusted servants across the islands?

Group A)

Yes

- a. Providing resources and pamphlets to our trusted servants.
- b. Getting information and resources to groups
- c. Making announcements during meetings
- d. Having the Delegates corner
- e. GSR online orientations via online platform

## B. Participation and Safety

### 1. Do all members of the Area Committee feel encouraged and safe to participate in Committee/Assembly meetings and discussions?

Group B)

Yes

Group b)

Yes

- a. Positive and effective process
  - a. Rule 62 makes it safe
  - b. Locations are welcoming and comfortable
  - c. Gender equality is present
  - d. Organization and logistics are done well
- b. Suggestions
  - a. Ask for more feedback
  - b. Invite questions and make more space to encourage participation
  - c. Host more online workshops
    - i. Ex: Oahu safety workshop coming soon
    - ii. Need to address communication and breakdown issues
    - iii. Get FAQ pages into more platforms and meet accessibility needs

**2. Are the voices and perspectives of all members respected and considered in the Committee's decision-making, even when decisions are made using Simple Majority or Substantial Unanimity?**

Group B)

Yes

Group b)

Absolutely! Done well at Area level  
Past delegates are VERY helpful

**3. How well does the Area Committee help its committees and members carry out their responsibilities and contribute to our service goals?**

Group B)

- a. Have meetings more than quarterly
- b. Have hybrid meetings
- c. Not aware when meetings/workshops are
  - a. Nice to get reminders of events
  - b. GSRs responsibility to stay informed and take info to group level
- d. Grateful for money budgeted for events AND all work done by committee members

Group b)

- a. Suggestions
  - a. Committee chairs could better ensure communication to all
  - b. Understood communication is two ways. ASK DCM questions
  - c. Can always find ways to improve and grow.
  - d. Roles could be better flushed out
  - e. GSRs could make more announcements at group level about Area service opportunities and activities
  - f. GSRs could elevate importance of service at group level
  - g. More Area sponsored workshops
  - h. Districts could piggyback on Area workshops with follow up topic
  - i. set up schedule dump

**C. Area Dynamics & Communication**

1. How effectively does the Committee communicate information between Area Officers, Standing Committee Chairs, DCM's, Webmaster, GSR's and the wider fellowship?

Group C)

1. We feel the website is very effective; it has many useful things right on the homepage. We like the information that each Standing Committee reports at each Assembly, but another idea would be a monthly email from the Standing Committee with updates and requests for help.

Sometimes when we email a Standing Committee for information, they don't respond. In one of our homegroups, we have our own service position to email AND call to request a monthly update from some, not all, Standing Committees.

On the contrary, information from every single Standing Committee could be overwhelming for GSRs, especially when they're new. Someone reported there is actually a monthly newsletter in the works.

Another suggestion is for Standing Committee Chairs to create reports from their Committee Meetings to present or just provide to the DCM before their District Meetings. We could use the District Google Drive as a central repository for Committee reports available for everyone in Area 17 service. This could be very useful for Mynah Bird to include what's happening in our Area.

One area to improve is the timeliness of communicating events to Central Office. Many times they won't get a flyer or date until just a week before, and people don't have time to adjust their schedule to attend.

Group c)

We understand that the committee communicates with DCMs who bring to District where GSRs bring the information to the group. Which is why it is important for SGRs to participate in District.

- a. Some districts are communicating. Some less than others. We have different experiences from different districts and islands.
- b. Could we get a clearer breakdown of committee responsibilities and operations in addition to the Structures and Guidelines
- c. Area 17 website has a wealth of knowledge, but not commonly known or easily navigated
- d. We can invite homegroup members to visit the Area 17 website.

2. How effectively does the committee respond to differences of opinion in ways that maintain respect and support for our work together?

Group C)

2. From what we've seen so far, there is a high level of respect held in the process of discussion and voting. We like that there is a lot of levity as well, forgiving mistakes and holding patience for each other. The whole point of experiencing the Assembly is to see the Concepts in action.

One person has as much sway as anyone, like the example this morning of one person pointing out a point to reconsider the vote.

Group c)

- a. Minority opinion is always called.
- b. Very well
- c. Anyone who steps up is heard and respected around sharing their viewpoints and thoughts

3. Do members of the Committee work together effectively to support the Area's goals and serve the groups?

Group C)

3. One of our members said Area 17 is on another level. When they were a GSR in a different Area, they only interacted with District and Area did not seem involved. At a recent workshop, another member said Area 17 Secretary contributed speakers and support. These events help every alcoholic know that Area is not a huge scary governmental thing, but that they're here to listen and help. Our delegate in particular has been doing a great job in making herself available and giving her time to talk to anybody with a question or idea. Before being a GSR, one of our members was not aware of the Area website. So this is something we highly recommend to announce to homegroups and beat it like a sober horse.

Group c)

- a. Not sure if the committee is succeeding at communicating the value of the service structure to groups
- b. Doesn't succeed at verbally communicating what resources and support are available to the group
- c. Needs to communicate how participating in service creates benefits breakthroughs and skill development that transition outside of the rooms
- d. It does seem that they are working as a team
- e. Kupuna Day was a positive example of communication.

**D. Role Clarity & Engagement (Hawaii Area Assembly in accordance to the Hawaii Area Structure and Guidelines Ver.75.0 1.2, include: All: General Service Representatives (GSR), District Committee Members (DCM), Standing Committee Chairs (SCC) , Intergroup Chairs, Area Officers.**

1. Do members take ownership of their roles and responsibilities within the Area Committee?

Group D) The scope of our inventory is limited to our experience

- a. Committee members felt they take ownership of their roles within the committee

Group d)

1. Accountability in Leadership: Our Area Treasurer (Adrianna) was cited as a prime example of ownership; despite issues with reports, her willingness to find answers and "own up" to mistakes reflects the spiritual principle of the position.
2. The Knowledge Gap: Ownership varies by experience. While many know their roles, others are still learning, which can lead to inefficiencies or wasted funds at the management level.
3. The Need for Documentation: A lack of written "Structure and Guidelines" was identified as a major barrier. Many districts are just now forming budgets for the first time. To increase ownership, GSRs agreed to share their guidelines to help clarify roles for newcomers.
4. Active Representation: Ownership is expressed through reporting. GSRs at the table emphasized that their function is to listen intently for improvements for their home groups and ensure they educate their members with "two-minute snippets" or daily reports at infrastructure-heavy meetings (like beach meetings).

2. Are members actively contributing to the Committees work beyond their basic duties?

Group D)

- a. Most members felt they were "at least" meeting their basic duties by:
  - a. Communicating committee activities to the group
  - b. Sending out emails with committee information to group members
  - c. Referring members to the committee website.
- b. We also discussed how participation may be more active when first assigned but can wane as time goes on.
- c. Members generally felt they could contribute more

Group d)

1. Variable Participation: There is a significant gap in "extra" work. One DCM noted that while they communicate committee progress via email, only about half (approx. 7 of 13) of the GSRs participate in additional Zoom committee meetings.
2. Meeting Consistency: It was noted that not all committees meet every month, which can hinder the ability of members to contribute work beyond their basic monthly report-backs.
3. Peer-to-Peer Support: Members are increasingly contributing by helping one another & specifically through the decision to share guidelines across districts, which goes beyond their individual group responsibilities.

3. Do members transition smoothly between roles and focus on their own responsibilities while supporting the Area's overall work?

Group D)

Generally not a committee member. Outgoing committee members aren't mentoring new members or there are groups.

Group d)

1. Grooming for Success: The use of the Alt-GSR position was highlighted as the most effective "grooming" tool. It allows a member to learn the role before being "dropped into" the position, ensuring a smoother transition.
2. The Challenge of Letting Go: Transitions are often easier when moving "down" the triangle than "up." Some members have difficulty letting go of their previous positions, which can lead to micro-managing the new elected position in office.
3. The Micro-Management Balance: A key discussion point (inspired by PRAASA) was the need to trust the GSR at the home group level. Groups must decide whether to let the GSR take the lead or if they are prone to micro-managing the representative.
4. Recruitment Struggles: A major barrier to smooth transitions is the difficulty in getting people to stay in positions or fill them in the first place. The group identified a need for more members who are simply "willing to learn and try." Summary of "Take-Away" Information & Action Required: One Intergroup is in a precarious financial state ("losing money"), and hard decisions must be made to move past the "status quo."

Resource Goal: The sharing of "Structure and Guidelines" between districts is a vital step toward professionalizing roles and reducing wasted resources. • The GSR Essential: The GSR remains the vital link; if they don't carry the message back, the home group remains uninformed and disconnected from the Area's overall work.

## E. Looking Forward

1. What opportunities does the Area Assembly see in the upcoming year, to strengthen service, communication, and support to groups?

Group E)

- a. Get more groups to be active in GSR positions
  - a. Encouraging other members of homegroups to shadow GSRs at assemblies.
  - b. Encouraging sponsors to get sponsees to secretary meetings
  - c. Having more communication between committee chairs and DCMs
    - i. Host workshops for our service and traditions and concepts
  - d. Making service more attractive

Group e)

- a. word of mouth when an assembly occurs in a local district, sparking interest in area service
- b. area members attending groups, sharing their work
- c. monthly committee meetings that attract member
- d. strengthen ties with intergroup

2. How can the Area Assembly better support members in understanding and using the AA Concepts and Traditions effectively in their service roles?

Group E)

- a. More breakout groups at assemblies for traditions and concepts
- b. Encourage more workshop for traditions and concepts for GSR to create at their homegroup

Group e)

- a. committee workshop in Puna, May 17
- b. Anonymity workshop via Zoom March 14
- c. PRAASA Feb 27 to Mar 1
- d. Strengthen ties/communication with intergroups

3. In what ways can we ensure that our 7th Tradition contributions are being used prudently and in line with A.A.'s primary purpose?

Group E)

- a. Have clear and open communication between treasurer and group conscience at the home group.

Group e)

- a. Financial transparency, itemization

#### Officers' Area Inventory Report

We did a quick evaluation of our performance on all 5 topics and thought we are doing particularly well in the area of Participation and Safety, that we lead by example well and don't take ourselves too seriously. We did, however, see room for improvement in many of the other categories.

We particularly felt that there is work to do in communication with each other and the members of Area 17, that better definition and communication of service responsibilities and more assistance to Committee and members in carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic, especially through the encouragement of growth of and participation in local Standing Committees is needed.

We need to strive to do our best to provide the guidance and resources to our area and look forward to collaborating on action items that come as a result of this inventory process.