

Income

Gross literature sales for June 2020 were \$185,129 which is \$54,411 (22%) less than actual June 2019. Budgeted literature sales for June 2020 fell \$92,103 (33%) below budget. Year to date literature sales fell below budget by \$541,392 (29%). Sales from our electronic literature were \$19,613 which was significantly higher than May sales of \$8,506.

Contributions for June 2020 were \$509,058 which is \$345,472 (211%) more than actual June 2019. (Awesome!) Budgeted contributions for June were \$335,732 (194%) above budget. Year to date contributions are still above budget by \$615,206 (65%) due to the increase in contributions from the Special Appeal from the fellowship and the bequest in February.

Expenses

Expenses decreased by \$99,967 compared to prior year and are below budgeted expectations at 45.10% overall. We are continuing to reduce expenses wherever possible. Some expense accounts slightly exceeded budgeted expectations because of timing of expenses (printing costs) while others are below expectations. Some of our costs are fixed costs – such as occupancy and telephone expenses – which are in line with budgeted expectations.

Reflections and Insight:

The response from the members, groups, Districts, and Areas to our Special Appeal was exciting to see and so very appreciated. We knew we could depend on all of you to help when it was most needed. The Finance Committee continues to keep a thoughtful eye on expenses, and we wish to thank to the Staff for controlling our expenses. Although the contributions were above the budgeted amount for June, we are not out of the woods. There is still a projected deficit of \$420,000 through the end of December 2020. Please continue your contributions to WSO if you are able. To give, you may contribute by check to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Parkway Landing, Virginia Beach, VA 23454, or go to the website: al-anon.org and look for the "Contributions" tab.

We hope your groups, Districts, and Areas are doing well. Please take care of yourselves first.

2020 WSC Thought and Task Forces:

Traditionally at the WSC after each thought or task force presentation and after hearing feedback on the presentations, the COB will ask for next steps. Due to the 2020 WSC being held virtually, Conference members were asked to post their feedback from the two Thought Forces and one Task Force to AFG Connects. The Board of Trustees had a lengthy discussion on the feedback received from Conference members. The Board decided no further action was needed regarding the Fear of Change Thought Force. The Board felt there are enough resources on the topic in our current literature. There will be further discussion on next steps for the Identify Ways to Look at Service in Relation to Roles, Terms, & Possible Roadblocks Thought Force and the Reaching & Unifying Rural & Large Geographic Populations Task Force at the October Board Meeting.

Electronic Meeting Work Group Update:

In June 2020, the Electronic Meeting Work Group (EMWG) was tasked with determining if it is feasible and consistent with the role of the WSO to register or license Al-Anon events that are being held electronically and not connected to a service arm. After discussion and performing a Knowledge-Based Decision-Making (KBDM) process, the EMWG concluded that it is undesirable to have events outside the service structure. The EMWG will continue to work on a KBDM on how to register electronic events appropriately.

After performing a KBDM, the EMWG has concluded that electronic meetings are Al-Anon groups and are asked to adhere to the same policies that apply to all Al-Anon groups. The EMWG is evaluating all the considerations related to defining electronic meetings as Al-Anon groups, which include electronic meetings having a Group Representative (GR) with duties and responsibilities as currently defined by the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27)* version two (2).



In Al-Anon, we are asked to do more than follow the law. We are also asked to be "obedient to the unenforceable" and follow the group conscience of our fellowship as a whole. This group conscience is documented in the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, and is based on the decisions of the World Service Conference, our largest representative group conscience.

This exception applies only to face-to-face meetings, because registered electronic meetings have the option of applying for a yearly license to use CAL. Temporary electronic meetings do not qualify for the licensing given to registered electronic meetings. On page 115 of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (version two), it states that the World Service Office cannot grant permission for "substantial" reprints of CAL in the US and Canada. On pages 116-117, the *Manual* reiterates that the WSO does not give permission to reprint extensively within the US and Canada, but goes on to clarify that the WSO can approve "limited excerpts" from CAL, provided that the proper forms have been submitted. In this case, "limited" has generally been interpreted as being a paragraph or less in length, but also limited in the number of quotations reprinted in a given document.

However, to provide some flexibility in the use of CAL at face-to-face meetings and workshops, members may copy CAL (and *The Forum*) without written permission provided that:

- It is for one-time use (such as for a meeting topic),
- The number of photocopies printed is limited to the number of members attending,
- The number is also limited to what can be reasonably discussed within one meeting,
- The photocopies are not for sale or being distributed beyond that meeting or workshop,
- Photocopies are used, rather than retyping the material, to maintain accuracy, and
- The following credit line is included on all copies: "From _____, copyright 20__, by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. One-time reprint permission granted by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc."

but in keeping with what face-to-face meetings can do, the Chairperson may display on the screen a passage of CAL as long as it fits the same requirements as a face-to-face meeting. The Chairperson can share the screen while members read, provided that the passage is not posted on a website or otherwise visible beyond the length of that individual meeting. While displayed, the passage should include the credit line and copyright information, just as the face-to-face meeting does. Attendees are asked not to take screen captures of CAL

WSO Staff and Volunteer Alateen Certification:

At the January 2020 Board Meeting, the Board passed a motion authorizing the WSO to establish an Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service recertification and training program (WSO AMIAS Program) for all WSO Staff members who may be required to work with teenagers in a capacity representing AFG, Inc. (See the January 2020 COB Letter.) At the July 2020 Board meeting, the Board passed a motion that will require Trustees and At-Large Executive Committee members to become certified AMIAS through the WSO AMIAS Program starting in 2021. As a result of this decision, Trustees and At-Large Executive Committee members will only have to become certified AMIAS in their Area if they will be serving their Area in an AMIAS capacity.

- Are you an effective communicator? Do you enjoy helping others? Do you have a passion for Al-Anon's legacies and its service structure? Do you want to make a difference by sharing your knowledge with other Al-Anon members? If so, you may be a fit for the attached position! The Group Services Specialist role requires five or more years of membership and service in Al-Anon. Please see the attached position description for a summary of the job duties and position requirements. Interested candidates can email their resume and cover letter to HumanRes@al-anon.org.

- We wanted to let the fellowship know that we have begun development of improvements to the Mobile App, including an update to our registration process. We will work to complete the development, testing, and rollout of these changes as soon as we can. We'll keep you updated as we progress and can provide timelines. Thank you for your continued suggestions and feedback! We look forward to evolving our Mobile App together.

The Public Outreach Committee has recommended that the year be removed from the *AFA* magazine cover and only be included as part of the copyright information on the inside cover. In December 2019, a consensus was reached by the Committee. WSO Staff raised a concern that the magazine without a date could be at risk for being thrown away prematurely.

So, the PO Committee, which has several members who work in the professional field, continued the discussion at the September 2020 Committee meeting. The consensus was that the year on the cover is a greater detriment than a benefit:

- Dates matter particularly when referring to research materials.
- Including the year dates our timeless content and makes it more likely to be thrown out the following year.
- Members are less likely to hand out what appears to be outdated materials, so more magazines end up being wasted across all service levels.

The PO Committee's recommendation has been presented to the Executive Committee, and no concerns were raised. The new issue of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, formally known as *AFA 2021*, will be the first issue printed without a year on the cover.

This message will be posted to PO Coordinators and the AFG Announcements communities later this week.

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- We have received many requests for the PSA distribution and airplay lists. Historically, at the launch of a new PSA campaign, WSO provided the lists to members and asked for their help to deliver the Al-Anon message of hope to their local TV and radio stations. This year, we have held off in publishing these lists because of recent information from our new PSA

- Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many groups are not meeting in person. Therefore, it has become difficult for members to obtain literature through traditional methods. In an effort to enhance the affordability of literature for members, the flat rate shipping cost of \$10 has been reduced to \$5 for individual orders under \$50 in the US, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda. Shipping costs for orders in Canada will be reduced to \$10 for individual orders under \$50. This special shipping rate will be available for a limited time.

*Indiana Area Cordially Invites You
First World Service Office Town Hall!!
(Virtual)
Saturday, November 14, 2020*

Town Hall
1:00pm - 1:45pm EST
WSO Presenters
Vali F., Executive Director
Lynette K., Chair of the Board
Debbie G., Chair of Executive Committee

Topics Presented

Personal Sharing by Presenters
Finances & WSO

Electronic/Hybrid Meetings & Mobile App
Requirements for Serving on the Board

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- *There will be 15 minutes of questions and answer time following the presentations.*
- *Indiana Area members' questions will be first. Questions related to presented topics only.*
- *Please send questions by November 10th to: Miriam B. at delegate@Indiana-al-anon.org*

Login begins at 12:30pm EST

Please include your name and Area when logging in.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89916453167>
Meeting ID: 899 1645 3167
No Passcode. There will be a waiting room.
Max 500 attendees

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,,89916453167# US (Chicago)
Dial by location
+312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Saturday, November 14th, 2020: Miriam Blane (IN)

**Saturday, December 12th, 2020: Rosanna Hollie
(CA[N])**

Saturday, January 9th, 2021: Cindy Jacobs (FL[N])

Saturday, February 6th, 2021: Susan Rathbun (SD)