

Two historic decisions were made at this year's WSC. The first decision was to recognize permanent electronic meetings as Al-Anon Family Groups. The second decision was to allow creation of non-geographically based Areas, the first of which will be a non-panel Area for groups which meet on electronic platforms. These decisions allow groups which meet electronically to elect all the service positions identified in the *Service Manual*, including a Group Representative (GR). Everything in the *Service Manual* will apply equally to all groups whether they meet physically or electronically.

The Conference gave traditional approval and, during the Annual Meeting the Board of Trustees, in their legal capacity, elected the following trusted servants:

Regional Trustees: Debbie P., Canada Central (First three-year term); Tony S., Canada East (First three-year term); Linda R., US Southeast (Remaining one year of a first three-year term); Trustees at Large: Lynette K. (Second three-year term); Don B. (First three-year term); Kathi M. (First three-year term); Nancy S. (Remaining two years of a first three-year term) Board Officers 2021-2022: Lynette K., Chairperson of the Board; Marianne B., Vice Chairperson of the Board; Cindy M. Treasurer

The Board of Trustees, in its legal capacity, elected the following: Executive Committee: Deborah (Debbie) G. (Third one-year term); Terry F. (Second one-year term); David B. (First one-year term); Chairperson of the Executive Committee: Deborah (Debbie) G.; Executive Committee for Real Property Management Chairperson: Elizabeth (Liz) D. (One-year term)

Save the Date—"Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect": Mark your calendars for this year's Road Trip! event which will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on October 23, 2021. This event gives Al-Anon members an opportunity to interact with members from the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. Be on the lookout for more details and registration information regarding the Cleveland Road Trip! Event.

Longitudinal Study/Membership Survey: WSO Staff began the process of developing the 2021 Membership Survey in 2020. During this process, Staff reached out to research professionals in the field of alcoholism/addiction asking for their opinions regarding our survey process. The professionals suggested a longitudinal study which would consist of asking the exact same group of members the exact same questions over a period of five to ten years. This would allow the WSO to track an Al-Anon member to understand the impact that consistent Al-Anon membership has on mental health, etc. As with the Membership Survey, the data would be anonymous. The Longitudinal Study participants will be selected at random from members who opt-in at the time they take the upcoming Membership Survey. Members who opt-in to the longitudinal study will be contacted via email and asked a set of ten questions, the same questions each year, for a period of five years from 2022 through 2026. All Al-Anon members are welcome to participate in the Membership Survey regardless of the amount of time you have in the program. The Membership Survey will be available in English, Spanish, and French at the following link [al-anon.org/membersurvey](http://al-anon.org/membersurvey) starting June 16, 2021 to July 27, 2021.

2023 Al-Anon International Convention: Here is another opportunity for Al-Anon members to come together and celebrate recovery! Al-Anon's Seventh International Convention will be held

June 29 – July 2, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This exciting event will be here before you know it. Stay tuned for more details as 2023 approaches.

**Finance Update:**

The following update is based on the un-audited financial statements for the period that ended 03/31/2021.

**Revenues (Income):** Revenue consists mainly of literature sales and contributions. Other revenue includes magazine sales and investment gains or losses. Literature sales for March were \$191,559. Contributions for March were \$292,245. See the table below for YTD Actuals vs. YTD Budget and Total Budget.

**Expenses:** The largest categories of expenses consist of WSO Staff salaries and benefits, public service announcements (PSAs), Conference costs, and travel. Expenses for March were \$426,296. See the table below for YTD Actuals vs. YTD Budget and Total Budget. We continue to monitor all expenses and reduce them wherever possible.

**Net Increase/(Decrease):** Change in net assets resulted in a net increase of \$105,057 which reflects the decrease in expenses.

|                      | Year to Date (YTD) | March 2021  | YTD Actuals | YTD Budget              |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Total Budget Revenue |                    |             |             |                         |
| Literature Sales–net | \$469,080          | \$449,099   | \$1,924,400 | Contributions           |
|                      | \$688,924          | \$671,311   | \$2,882,110 | Other income            |
|                      | \$158,920          | \$146,250   | \$585,000   | Total Revenue           |
|                      | \$1,316,924        | \$1,266,660 | \$5,391,510 | Total Expenses          |
|                      | \$1,211,867        | \$1,366,322 | \$5,465,290 | Net Increase/(Decrease) |
|                      | \$105,057          | \$(99,662)  | \$(73,780)  |                         |

**Investments:** Our ample reserve is contained mostly in the Reserve Fund under the careful watch of our investment managers. Market conditions in March were favorable as the market experienced some gains. To date, we have an unrealized gain of \$554,258. Our investment accounts continue to be sensitive to market conditions.

**Reflections and Insight:** In the first three months of this year's financials, while our Literature Sales are still lower than this time last year, our Contributions are not only higher than this time last year, but they also continue to exceed literature sales! While we are hopeful that our literature sales will grow (lower shipping costs through the end of 2021!), we are also hopeful that our membership is increasing (especially with the growth of our AI-Anon Family Groups which meet electronically!). We look forward to this upcoming year as we find the courage to persevere and as we move towards unity with all our groups—physical, electronic, and hybrid! Additionally, our expenses are lower than this time last year, but that is partially because we will not be travelling until the second half of the year. However, our fabulous Staff at our World Service Office continues to serve the groups efficiently with grace and love! We are very grateful to our fellowship for their continued support of our program, so that we can continue to be available for those seeking recovery from the effects of alcoholism!