

Submit newsletter to WSO
Share Region information on WSO SLACK

ELEMENTS OF NEWSLETTERS

News from Intergroups, Regions, and World Service Board
Announcements – events, workshops, fund-raisers
Recovery stories
Service – How tos
Steps/Traditions
Wish List
Call for volunteers

CREATE LITERATURE

Write Trifolds / Pamphlets
Compile Experience, Strength, & Hope on recovery topics
Publish directory of Intergroups in Region

EVALUATE LITERATURE

Evaluate or edit submissions
Send adopted literature to WSO literature committee

TRANSLATIONS

Translate own submissions if appropriate

DISTRIBUTE LITERATURE

Share newly developed literature on Region website

REGION WEBSITE

Creates, launches, hosts, & pays for website
Updates website

ELEMENTS OF WEBSITE

News – Intergroups, Regions, & WSO
Announcements - Intergroups, Regions, & WSO
Intergroups contribute announcements
Remind to Regions & Intergroups to update their registration information on the WSO website annually
Recovery stories
Service – how tos
Steps/Traditions
Wish List
Call for volunteers
Literature available
Contact for Intergroups, Regions, & WSO

MEMBER AND PUBLIC SERVICES

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

Provide Intergroups with information to contact local therapists, hospitals, & institutions
Distribute Hospitals & Institution literature to Intergroups

SPEAKERS

Distribute lists of speakers
Provide speakers for community & 12-Step panels
Provide training for speakers

SPECIAL EVENTS – FUND RAISING

Literature
Speaker workshops
Conferences / Events
7th Tradition

SPECIAL EVENTS - SOCIAL

Host ACA Birthday Party in January
Remind Intergroups and meetings to celebrate ACA

SPECIAL EVENTS – EDUCATION – RECOVERY, SERVICE, & SPONSORSHIP

Seminars at Conferences
Webinars
Workshops
Distribute Region & Intergroup generated literature

SPECIAL EVENTS – CONFERENCES & RETREATS

Conferences
Retreats
Service Panels



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ACA Regions



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REGIONS IN THE ACA SERVICE STRUCTURE

Adult Children of Alcoholics is membership driven. Local meetings band together to form Intergroups. Intergroups join together to form Regions. Regions representatives join together as the WSO Board to direct the activities of the World Service Organization. Tradition reminders of how ACA works as delineated in our bylaws: 2. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern; 9. ...we may create service boards or committees *directly responsible to those they serve.*

ACA SERVICE STRUCTURE EVOLVES

In 1977 Tony A. penned the Laundry List characteristics of adult children of alcoholics. In 1981 a central group formed in Southern California that evolved into the ACA World Service Board we have today. Three years later, 1984, ACA became an independent 12-Step program. In the late 1980s and early 1990s Regions formed in Europe #20, Eastern Canada #10, Texas, and California #2. Those Regions disappeared because: too few did too much in service; ACA leaders at the outset had little time in recovery; ACAs are predisposed to let others take the initiative (discounting own abilities); Regions had no steady stream of revenue; and there was no clear mandate of what Regions were to do in the hierarchy. Meetings formed; they merged and formed Intergroups; then World Service sprang from individuals from Intergroups.

REGIONS ARE RISING AGAIN

Currently in place in the ACA service hierarchy is a European Committee, and Western USA Region. In Eastern Canada is a group that performs as a region, we believe, that may soon present their Region representative to WSO. We also have information that there are Intergroups in the

Virginia and Washington D.C. area forming a Region.

WHY REGIONS ARE NEEDED NOW

- We need a hierarchy where a lot of people do a little bit
- We have a lot of willing volunteers; we need structure to best communicate
- We need clear bylaws about the service structure
- Representatives of Regions who are the Officers and Chairpersons of WSO committees will best reflect the needs and wants of the groups they serve
- People who represent groups understand how meetings effectively run using bylaws, operations guides, and Roberts' Rules of Order.
- Ballot items passed by delegates to the Annual Business Conference will be given more serious attention by representatives than by unelected volunteers.
- Elected representatives who have worked in ACA service understand that they are limited in what they can do by "the power of the purse" and make decisions based on that basic principle of service.
- Elected representatives understand that all revenues generated from 7th Tradition and Literature are to be used judiciously for program enhancement and not as personal travel and slush funds.
- Region representatives that make up the WSO Board are most likely to place program principles before personalities.

THINGS REGIONS CAN DO

The list below is a menu of things Intergroups may or may not want their Region to do to serve their fellowship.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ARCHIVE LITERATURE

History of Region formation
Documents
Region Mission
Incorporation/ Operations Documents
Literature
Minutes

OFFICE

Updates own registration
Reminds IGs to update registrations annually with WSO
Asks IGs to remind meetings to update registrations annually
Responds to incoming questions and messages

SPONSORS – RECOVERY & SERVICE

Sponsorship workshops
Recovery workshops for sponsors
Service workshops
Region committee work

SERVICE

Board Officers
Liaison to WSO
Chairs of Committees (Literature, Hospitals and Institutions, Outreach, Newsletter, Special Events, Website, Communications...)

OPERATIONS

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Regions direct focus & operations of WSO through their representative on the WSO Board of Trustees
Request assistance and clarification

DECISIONS / BALLOT / VOTE

Submit ballot items for ABC
Share ideas & motions with WSO
Make autonomous decisions for Region
Elect Representative for Region to sit on WSO Board of Trustees

LITERATURE

NEWSLETTER

Publish area newsletter online

