

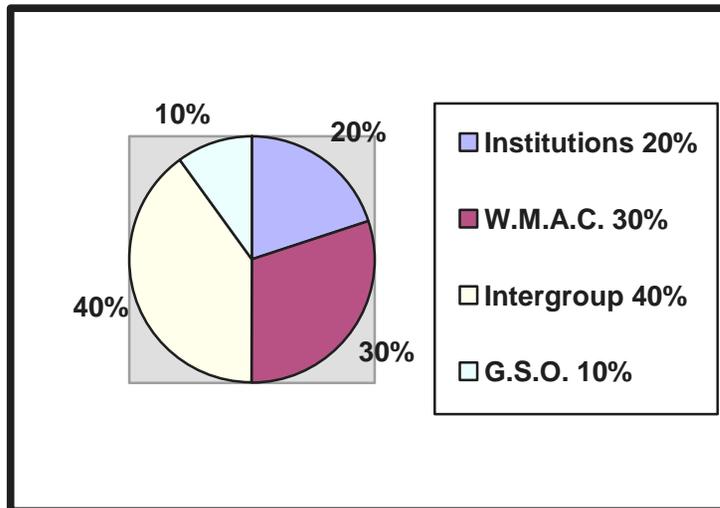
SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

The General Service pamphlet “Self Support: Where Money & Spirituality Mix” & “Memo to an AA Group Treasurer” & the local pamphlet “Western Mass Area Contributions Guidelines”, suggest that after a group pays its basic expenses such as meeting room rent, refreshments, AA literature & prudent reserve, the group divides the remaining funds on a regular basis toward essential AA services. It further suggests several options for this division, depending on the group’s local needs which is arrived at through its group conscience.

In Western Massachusetts an example of distribution is:*

40% to **Western Mass Intergroup** in Holyoke or to the **Berkshire Intergroup** in Pittsfield
30% to **Western Mass Area Committee**
20% to **Western Mass Institution Committee**
10% to the **General Service Office** in New York

This pie chart is suggested by Area 31 AA. Groups may choose to distribute funds differently as per their group conscience.



When you send your check, please remember to write your **GROUP SERVICE NUMBER** and **GROUP NAME** on the face of the check so that your group will be properly credited with the contribution!

*The above ‘pie chart’ percentages came from a vote by the Area 31 Committee (not Western Mass Intergroup).

Mailing Addresses:

Make checks payable to:

Western Mass Area Committee; P.O. Box 6818, Holyoke, MA 01041-6818

Western Mass Intergroup; 474 Pleasant St. Holyoke, MA 01040

Berkshire Intergroup; 152 North Street, Suite 30C Pittsfield, MA 01201

Western Mass Institutions; P.O. Box 1391 Holyoke, MA 01041-1391

The General Service Office; Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 459 New York, NY 10163

*Please remember to write your **GROUP SERVICE NUMBER** and **GROUP NAME** on the face of your check so that your group will be properly credited with the contribution! If you don’t know your Group Service Number, ask your Registrar; or see you G.S.R. If you don’t have a G.S.R. – GET ONE!!*

The Three Legacies of AA

The First Legacy to AA is **Recovery**, which is embodied in the Big Book, in the steps and in person to person twelfth step work.

The Second Legacy to AA is **Unity**. This Bill had realized when he said, “We can do together what I cannot do alone.” It was vital that AA’s stay together. To insure unity, Bill has written the Twelve Traditions.

The Third Legacy is **Service**. The General Service Conference is the means by which the Fellowship is autonomous, operating through the instrument of a truly democratic, representational, elected form of self-government.

As defined by Bill, “...an AA service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer – ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a phone call & a cup of coffee, and to AA’s General Service Office for national & international action.” *

*taken from Pass It On

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE – OUR CONNECTION

Once a year, usually in April, all the delegates from the U.S. & Canada and all the trustees (alcoholic & non-alcoholic), directors of AAWS & the Grapevine Board, & the staffs of both the General Service Office & the Grapevine, come together in New York City for what is called the “General Service Conference.” The Conference spans six days & is packed with all kinds of AA related business. All conference members have received a deluge of advanced material, preparing them for the week of work ahead. Everyone is well prepared and by utilizing the “committee system”, a remarkable amount of work is accomplished.