

\$HOW ME THE MONEY !!

PASSING THE BASKET

"We have no dues or fees, but we do pass the basket to cover group expenses, including purchase of literature, support of our trusted servants, and Al-Anon service arms. According to our Seventh Tradition, Al-Anon/Alateen groups ought to be self-supporting through our own voluntary contributions. We are encouraged to contribute in gratitude for what Al-Anon/Alateen has given us. The amount is not important; what is important is that we give whatever we can."

[Note to Chairperson: While no one is required to contribute, the opportunity should be available to all, including newcomers.]

GROUP TREASURER DUTIES

- Maintains the group's financial records in a manner that reflects the group conscience.
- Passes the collection basket at group meetings.
- Asks another member to help count and record the collection.
- Reads the Quarterly Appeal Letter, and passes around the accompanying collection envelope to the group at two consecutive meetings.
- Submits a financial statement to the group at regular intervals.

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GROUP FINANCES / BUDGET

Every group ought to be fully self supporting, declining outside contributions.

- A group's membership is the source of its funds.
- Assistance from sources outside of Al-Anon or Alateen violates this Tradition.
- There are no dues or fees to attend Al-Anon or Alateen meetings. Supporting Al-Anon and Alateen groups financially is a way for members to express their gratitude.
- Group funds are used to support Al-Anon's purpose of carrying its message of help and hope to those who still suffer.
- Group contributions support all levels of Al-Anon service including the district, the local Al-Anon Information Service (AIS/Intergroup), the Area, and the World Service Office (WSO).

Group expenses may include:

- Rent
- GR expense to attend a district or area function
- Conference Approved Literature

Al-Anon and Alateen groups are not required to have a bank account; however, some groups choose to have them. It's important to note that individual Al-Anon and Alateen groups are not considered to be nonprofit organizations and they are not branches or chapters of the World Service Office. The WSO cannot give its non-profit number to local groups because the WSO has no authority over local group funds. Al-Anon and Alateen groups are autonomous in their financial matters. Al-Anon and Alateen groups in the U.S. that choose to have a bank account are required to obtain a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the Internal Revenue Service for the bank to keep on file.

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TO WSO

All contributions are used to meet expenses for worldwide services, including a portion of the operating expense of the World Service Conference. Contributions to the WSO cannot be earmarked for special purposes unless recommended by the WSC.

DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS

Birthday Plan – Members may contribute in honor of their Al-Anon/Alateen birthdays to express gratitude.

Memorial Contributions – Members may contribute to WSO in memory of anyone who is deceased.

Quarterly Appeal – This gives each member an opportunity to participate in 12th Step work beyond the group level.

BEQUESTS

The WSO may accept a *one-time* bequest from an Al-Anon member in any amount, provided its use is not restricted by the donor.

BY GROUPS AND OTHER SERVICE ENTITIES

Al-Anon/Alateen Groups – Groups may make donations to WSO with-out limitation

Al-Anon Service Arms – Districts, Areas, Information Centers, General Service Offices and other Al-Anon entities.

Al-Anon/Alateen Conventions – A portion of funds derived from Al-Anon/Alateen conventions

A.A. Conferences/Conventions – Contributions offered as acknowledgement of Al-Anon participation are acceptable

DISCOUNTS

WSO and other Al-Anon service entities may accept discounts that are routinely available to other non-profit organizations

FUND RAISING

Activities should be conducted within the fellowship. If events are open to the public and the Al-Anon/Alateen name is used it would violate the spirit of the Traditions.

OUTSIDE CONTRIBUTIONS

Outside contributions are not allowed per our 7th Tradition

AVOIDING COMMERCIALISM

Raffling various articles at meetings or other gatherings is a matter of autonomy (see "Selling Products/Chances"), but to avoid commercialism in the fellowship, it is suggested that these items relate in some way to our spiritual principles.

SELLING PRODUCTS AT MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES

Tradition Five states that the one purpose of each Al-Anon group is to help families of alcoholics. Therefore, it is inappropriate for an individual or outside entity to use Al-Anon meetings events as a marketplace before, during, or after these gatherings for the sale of services or products.

SELLING PRODUCTS AT A.A. MEETINGS

Al-Anon and Alateen members should refrain from soliciting or selling any products at A.A. meetings.

RAFFLES / LOTTERY TICKETS

Must follow the local/state law regarding selling raffle or lottery tickets



PAYMENT FOR SPEAKING

In Keeping with the 8th Tradition, Al-Anon speakers are reimbursed for expenses only. When a member is speaking outside of the organization they may request additional funds to purchase literature for distribution.

USE OF GROUP FUNDS

Rent and Other Expenses – OK

Gifts to Members – Not OK

Baby-Sitters – OK

Donations to Outside Agencies – OK if donating for activities or public outreach programs