

**Date of Meeting:** Spring Assembly - May 16, 2026  
**District Name and Number:** Southwest District 24  
**DR Name and email:** BECKY BRANHAM DIMON, bdimon@gmail.com

**Informational Items:**

Meetings in your District: 2 active Groups                      Hybrid: 1 meeting

**A New Hope Abingdon AFG: No Changes**

Mark H. continues to serve as the CMA.

This Group meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. The Group (#13760) was registered with WSO on 12/01/1974.

Attendance has been so good that they are talking about perhaps adding an additional day/time each week. They have a new Group Treasurer and continue face-to-face meetings. This Group continues to contribute to the District Treasury as well as to the Area and WSO.

**Duffield Unofficial Al-Anon Group: No Changes**

The new, unregistered AFG meeting, which was started in March 2023 at Kaylor's Chapel Baptist Church, Duffield, VA, continues to meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month for a joint breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

At 10:00 a.m. the AAs and Al-Anons break into their separate meetings.

The Group "affiliates" with Tennessee, but they keep me in the loop, and I give support when I can. They also added our District Al-Anon meetings to their tri-fold meeting schedule.

**We Care Bristol AFG, WSO #12756 (registered ~1974):**

The latest update is that the members of this Group are presently affiliating with the Tennessee Area, District 1, where there are more activities than the Southwest Virginia Groups. The Virginia Area Chair and Group Records Coordinator are aware of the issues. Briefly, Bristol VA and Bristol TN are twin cities, with the state line running down the middle of Main Street. This Group was registered with WSO originally as a Virginia Area District Group. The current members have voted to be a Tennessee Area (52) Group in TN District 01. They are currently operating as a Tennessee Group (see Appendix A).

On August 9, 2025, I posed this question to the Area Chair, Long Range Planning Committee Chair, and the Area Group Records Coordinator:

*Can two state cities be added as a legitimate exception in our Area Boundary Policy with Bristol VA, and Bristol TN, as the only known example as of the approval date for our Area Boundary Policy?*

*This makes sense to me, as the DR for Southwest, and to foster goodwill for the fellowship.*

There was not enough time for this to be addressed by the Area Officers for the 2025 Fall Assembly. It is my understanding that voting by the Virginia Area Assembly Officers, the VAWSC, and then the full Assembly is necessary for the Virginia Area to release the We Care Bristol AFG, from our Southwest District. Furthermore, this might be better handled through our Area Boundary Policy.

### **Updates since the last meeting:**

Lorraine S. is the new Group Representative for We Care Bristol AFG and will attend the Spring Assembly virtually. Lorraine is still collecting information to proceed with a Group Conscience, including Alateen meetings. More will be forthcoming at Spring Assembly.

### **Challenges:**

- Steady Attendance
- Vacant Service Roles

### **Goals:**

I plan to attend each Group meeting at least once during this Panel.

I plan to attend the once-a-month joint breakfast and the Al-Anon meeting in Duffield, Virginia, at least once during this Panel.

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## APPENDIX A

### 2025 TIME TABLE FOR SOUTHWEST DISTRICT GROUP MOVE TO TENNESSEE

#### **From Jean L.:**

On May 12 there were nine members present. May 19 was the business meeting and we had already discussed at our regular meetings to make sure we had everybody's approval when the vote came on May 19 for the membership to be moved to Tennessee. Then on 5-26 there were eight present. We will have to look back at the attendance record to see how many were present on 5-19. I think all of those stayed for the business meeting.

We had are We Care business meeting on May 19, 2025. We then made announcements at the next five meetings on Saturdays and Mondays.

On June 9, 2025, we voted unanimously to be under the AFG Tennessee Area 52, Appalachian Highlands District 1 and move out of Virginia.

On June 22, 2025, I reported to the Appalachian Highlands District Meeting our decision to be under the AP District 1.

On July 7, 2025, I contacted Gay Stiltz, Tennessee Area - 52 records coordinator to inform her.

On July 8, 2025, Gay emailed me that it must be voted on at the next VA Assembly meeting.

#### **Update on February 10, 2026, From Jean L.:**

TN Area District 1 for our group, still using the We Care name.

Group Representative: Lorraine S.

A few members have attended events in Knoxville and Johnson City

Upcoming Appalachian Regional Roundup in Kingsport - AA / Al-Anon event  
5-8 attendees on Monday