

Virginia Area World Service Conference (VAWSC) Meeting
August 8, 2026
Laura Lovern, VA Area World Service Delegate, Panel 65
75 Years, One Purpose

Delegate Report

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Group Contributions 62% of Al-Anon Family groups contributed to the World Service Office (WSO) in 2025. The current cost per group of WSO services is \$357.95 per group. This is the “value received” from WSO by each group. These services include maintenance of the Al-anon.org website and meeting search, individual group services, Conference Approved Literature (CAL), public outreach, international support, digital communications, translation services, and more.

- At the close of 2025, the VA Area had 267 active groups. 133 of those groups made contributions to the WSO in 2025. Total group contributions to WSO from VA Area groups was \$31,333.70, representing that 50% of the groups in our Area contributed to
- The average annual group contribution, across all groups in the VA Area was \$117.35 (\$31,333.70/267). Of those that contributed, the average annual group contribution was \$235.59 (\$31,333.70/133).

Please remind your groups that Al-Anon is self-supporting and declines outside contributions, so every group contribution matters. As noted in the 2026-2029 Service Manual (P-24/27), p.54 “In keeping with Tradition Seven, support of the World Service Office is the responsibility of all Al-Anon members, groups, and service arms”.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- In August 2026, Jill, Ava, Deb and I will attend an extensive 3 hour training on the new Electronic Alateen processes and have additional details to share at the Fall Assembly.
- The new *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine will be released Q4-26.
- The eBook rollout should be complete by August 2026. eBooks are released in English, Spanish and French.
- Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect will be held October 24, 2026, following Board Week, in Chicago, IL. Once a year, the BOT meet in a different host Area, hosting the membership event with the focus on increased interaction, personal sharing, and engagement.
- August 6 – 8, 2027 Virginia Area Convention, Williamsburg, VA

- The 2028 Al-Anon International Convention will be held Thursday July 20 – Sunday, July 23, 2028, in Minneapolis, Minnesota – Registration opens in September 2027; The International Convention will again include a Day of Connecting, a Kickoff Party, a Love Parade, and Big Meetings. Room cost will be between \$249 and \$259 per night for the two hotels attached to the convention center.

WSO Project: Passing It On A 7-member Task Force (TF) of WSO Staff, WSO volunteers and past volunteers has been formed to create service tools to support Areas in identifying and passing on information from one generation of members and trusted servants to the next. This bridging and empowering of generations through knowledge transfer will include service knowledge, how to collaborate, how to lead effectively, how to guard our legacies, and more. The study guides and tool kits will be created by the 7 member TF with the help of vetted Al-Anon member content developers. These content developers will work on the service tools to be provided to the membership through the Passing It On project. (They want you! – what kind of personal experience do you have that you can share? Sponsorship, Concept 9, collaborating). The application timeline for content developers will be released soon; these will all be Al-Anon members. I will pass along application information as it becomes available.

I have included here, as part of my report, a sound summary, compiled and shared with permission by a fellow Panel 65 Delegate, of the final decisions made at WSC regarding the group naming policy, electronic Alateen process and the Single Trustee process trial.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Lovern
Delegate, Virginia, Panel 65

Group Naming Policy as of 2026

GROUPS MAY REGISTER NAMES WITH IDENTIFIERS, PROVIDED THAT THE GROUPS AGREE TO HONOR, PRACTICE, AND UPHOLD TRADITION 3.

- The Group Naming Policy passed by the 2024 WSC remains in effect and Service manuals will not be updated, at this time.
- WSO will allow group names to include community identifiers such as men, women, parents, adult children, young adults, other gender identification/sexual orientation, etc.
- WSO will consistently notify the Area Delegate and Area Group Records Coordinator whenever a group submits a registration or name change containing a community identifier to request these trusted servants have a conversation with the group to ensure their group conscience is to welcome anyone affected by someone else's alcoholism in accordance with Tradition Three and advise the World Service Office of the result and decision regarding whether to register the group.
- The Area (Individually and alongside WSO) will develop a plan to increase educational opportunities to share experience, strength and hope with Area trusted servants on how to be welcoming to newcomers, especially those who do not match a group's community identifier, and to have conversations with group members regarding group names and welcoming.
- Unless an Area has a Do Not Refer Policy that has been approved by the WSO, no action may be taken towards an existing group with identifiers in their name that is not upholding Tradition 3, beyond education and encouragement to follow the principles of Al-Anon.

E-Alateen Top 10 Highlights

1. An Area may opt in any time after September 1st
2. An Area may opt out at any time.
3. Electronic Alateen groups will become officially recognized Alanon groups within the Area.
4. Only Alateen members that live within the WSC Structure* may attend any Electronic Alateen groups in any Area that has opted in.
5. Once an Area opts in current AMIAS may register to become an E-AMIAS, which requires additional training and becoming a mandatory reporter. A member must be an AMIAS before they can become an E-AMIAS.
6. The Area will be responsible for the AMIAS-E's annual recertification and bi-annual background checks
7. Individual Electronic Alateen groups are required to verify age, WSC residence, and obtain Emergency contact information prior to an Alateen member attending the group meetings.
8. Electronic Alateen groups must store/protect and keep confidential the information obtained by the Alateen members.
9. The Area Alateen Coordinator will be responsible for conducting the new E-AMIAS trainings.
10. The E-Alateen groups can use any online platform that they want (Zoom, Teams, Etc.)

Electronic Alateen Timeline

New timeline for Areas to join the program is Sept 1st, 2026. There's a grace period ending Oct. 27th, 2027, for CURRENT Hybrid Alateen and Electronic Alateen to continue operations to allow time for Areas to opt in and find AMIAS-E to support them. The WSO will not register Hybrid or Electronic Alateen Groups until their Area opts in on or after Sept 1st. If the Hybrid group's Area does not opt in by the end of the grace period, they must switch to in-person only to continue to meet. Once an Area opts in, they may choose to opt out of the program at any time after and opt back in if they so choose, as well.

Opt-In Process

To opt in, the Area votes to grant the Area Delegate the authority to sign and send the official opt-in document to the WSO. Once received, the Area is able to certify AMIAS-E who can then register Electronic Alateen meetings. The Area is responsible for creating guidelines for how the Electronic Alateen Groups in Virginia operate then needs to update the ASBR to include how they will support the WSC's E-ASBR in its entirety. The Areas are discouraged from adding the WSC's E-ASBR to Area Guidelines (ASBR), but the WSC's E-ASBR may be added as an Appendix item if desired.

*WSC Structure = Only residents of USA (Puerto Rico)/Canada/Bermuda. A teen who is a resident of any other country is not allowed to attend Electronic Alateen meetings.

Single Trustee Timeline as of August 2028

Single Trustee Process

The Single Trustee Process was approved as a three-year trial beginning in 2028/2029, with the first applicants under the new process to be approved in March of 2030. The new, approved process will include additional Area and Regional feedback. A large concern of many Areas was losing their voice or regional representation; thus, the WSC and WSO collaborated on a new process to ensure balance on the Board of Trustees.

The approved method includes a new step in which Area Delegates will be immediately notified if a member living in their Area submits an application, then they'll inform their Area so they can provide feedback to the CCT to help decision making. Areas have two years to determine their area feedback processes.

Additionally, at the WSO level, if two equally qualified candidates are in consideration, but one of those members is from a region that is not currently represented, they will be more likely to be chosen to ensure regional representation.

At the end of the 3 year trial, the WSC may vote to end the trial and make the new Single Trustee Process permanent OR revert back to the current Regional and At-Large Trustee application processes.

Applications
accepted through
August 15th, 2029



CCT is formed



Area Delegate is
informed/Area
has until Aug.
15th to provide
feedback



CCT scores
resumes



Board may
approve or
interview
candidates



Nominated
candidates are
voted on by the
2030 WSC