

Date of Meeting: VAWSC - August 8, 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**
Duffield Unofficial Al-Anon Group: **No Changes**

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

Lorraine Shropshire, GR
Jul 28, 2026, 11:57 PM

Hi Becky,

Here are the updates for our Group to present to the VAWSC:

1. Meeting Status

- Face-to-Face: Yes (3 to 10 regular attendees)
- Hybrid: No
- Virtual only: No
- Schedule Changes: None. We continue to meet in person on Monday nights from 7:00–8:00 PM ET.

2. Events

- Hosted events this year: No
- Planned future events: No
- Joint events: Yes. Some members attended the Appalachian Highlands Roundup in Kingsport, TN in May 2026.

3. Updates since Spring Assembly

- Successes: Consistent member attendance at our Monday night meetings.
- Challenges: We are still trying to determine if we are part of Area 52 Tennessee and if Area 57 Virginia has released us. I have been attending the Area 52 Tennessee District 1 Appalachian Highlands Meetings in Johnson City, TN on the fourth Sunday from 1:30–2:30 PM.
- Goals: Outreach. We have printed cards to distribute to individuals, professionals, and recovery centers to increase exposure and attract newcomers.

- Things working well: Members regularly volunteer to chair meetings using a sign-up calendar. We have also started a group text for me, as the GR, to share event flyers, service manual guidelines, and information from The LOOP.
- Things that need attention: Who do I need to contact to find out the next steps for officially transitioning from Area 57 to Area 52?

4. Please summarize the following needs for your Group:

The District will provide your Group with 2 hard copies of the new 2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and up to 10 copies of the new 2026-2029 Groups at Work. Please let me know how many your Group will need!

These books are also available as FREE downloads:

<https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/>
<https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/groups-at-work/>

Other free downloads:

<https://al-anon.org/pdf/M10.pdf> - Just For Today - free download
<https://al-anon.org/pdf/S19.pdf> - Detachment - free download

Does your Group need other Literature that the District can provide for you?

Thank you for your service!

- ***Since we plan to be in Area 52***, I think it prudent that we obtain our hard copies of the new 2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and copies of the new 2026-2029 Groups at Work from Area 52 rather than Area 57. Thank you for the information on the free downloads
- Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Question about AMIAS-E:

- Has Area 57 adopted the Alateen Electronic Meetings which can begin as early as September 2026 and is [Area 57] training for AMIAS-E beginning yet, if it **has** been adopted?

OR

- Like Area 52, do you have a Task Force looking into the feasibility of the Electronic Alateen meetings and whether VA wants to participate or not?

Thank you for your service,
 Lorraine S.
 We Care AFG Bristol VA/TN GR

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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.

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 / AI-Anon event

5-8 attendees on Monday