March 24, 2020

All;
Hello and I hope this note finds everyone is doing well. Today I wanted to pass along a couple of thoughts based upon questions that I have been made aware of over the last few days.

1. Remember the Links of Service:
   a. As discussed at the recent VAWSC meeting members should understand Al-Anon’s structure. When possible, a member should direct a question to the Group Representative. If the question needs to be elevated, then the District Representative is the next individual to be queried. From here the question can be raised to the Area Officers. After the Officers the Area Delegate can raise the question to the World Service Office. This process works in the reverse order as well.
   b. Especially now, as we cope with the effects of COVID-19 it is very important that the Virginia Area communicates information through our Links of Service. Information needs to be conveyed to each Group and member – the very foundation of our Fellowship. Please do your part to maintain the Area’s Links of Service.

2. Group Donations:
   a. Questions have been raised since Groups are now remotely meeting asking for recommendation for Group finances. Always remember each group is autonomous & self-supporting and will follow the decision of the Group Conscience. The general recommendation from many Groups is for members to mail donations to the Group Treasurer per a discussed schedule. The Treasurer will then follow the agreed distribution guidance for the Group to include Rent, Alateen, District, Service Center, Area and World Service Office.

Remember these suggestions below for remote meetings. Keep in mind the anonymity of your members when selecting a service please.

VA Area’s WebEx meeting capacity: contact Becky D., bdimon@gmail.com, for info
Skype: https://www.skype.com/en/
Free conference calls: www.freeconferencecall.com
For Al-Anon on-line electronic meetings: https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/electronic-meetings/
Thank you each for your support and service. I really appreciate all that you do.

Take care and be safe,
- Tom S.
Virginia Area Chair, Panel 59