

STATEWIDE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

PURPOSE OF THE STATEWIDE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

Our primary purpose is to foster communication, cooperation, and collaboration between Area 35 and Area 36 to best carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholics in Minnesota State Correctional Facilities. To foster a unified and consistent message of what Alcoholics Anonymous can and cannot do to help alcoholics in Minnesota State Correctional (DOC) and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facilities.

MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS POSITIONS

Committee Members are composed of Area Corrections Chairs, District Corrections Chairs and additional Corrections Trusted Servants/A.A. members-at-large from Area 35 and Area 36 who have an interest in corrections service work.

The SWCC Officers are elected in December of even number years for two-year commitments beginning January 1 of odd numbered years. The elected positions will be for a Chair Alt-Chair and Secretary.

ACTIVITIES OF THE STATEWIDE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

1. Share information about various service opportunities or needs.
2. Engage in supportive problem-solving between Area 35 and Area 36 Corrections efforts.
3. Cooperate to ensure participation in prerelease events¹. The SWCC's primary purpose in participating in prerelease events is to Bridge the Gap, connecting alcoholic persons in custody with outside Alcoholics Anonymous through temporary contacts.
 - a. The SWCC shares responsibility for participation in prerelease events.
 - b. Requests from releases to Area 35 are sent to the Area 35 Corrections Chair at corrections@area35.org. Requests from releases to Area 36 are sent to the Area 36 Corrections Temporary Contact Coordinator at ctcp@area36.org.
4. Coordinate special events and/or workshops on Corrections topics of interest.
5. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM CST. The secretary sends an email in advance of the meeting to members and other interested A.A. members. The email contains online meeting instructions.
6. Form Ad Hoc committees, as needed, that focus on the objectives of the committee.
7. Maintain an email distribution list of interested members. Individuals on the email list receive meeting agendas, minutes, and meeting reminders.

¹ Transitions and resource fairs are prerelease events for persons in custody who will be released in less than 12 months. The Minnesota Coalition is invited to attend. The coalition is composed of non-profit entities and organizations whose interest is the successful transitions of persons in custody to the outside community. Twelve Step organizations are also invited to attend. Alcoholics Anonymous does not affiliate with the coalition, rather it cooperates.

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EXPENSES OF THE STATEWIDE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

Although each Area or Area Corrections Committee may have funds available for activities of the SWCC, the SWCC itself is not funded. Expenses are discussed up front in detail and shared in an equitable manner.

In making decisions members:

1. Regarding each expense, members come to an informed conscience as to the necessity or desirability of the expense.

DECISION MAKING

Following the formation of an informed group conscience, decisions are made by a simple majority of the SWCC meeting members.

RECORDS/HISTORY

The Statewide Corrections Committee maintains its records on its Google Drive. The SWCC secretary is responsible for updating the SWCC Google Drive and distributing documents to SWCC members on request.

Monthly minutes should be shared with both Area 35 and Area 36 sent by email to the Area 35 and Area 36 Secretaries.

On an on-going basis, all files will be backed up to a state-of-the-art supported backup device (such as a Thumb Drive). At any time, members or new Area Corrections chairs can request any of the backed-up documents if not available online.

STATEWIDE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

The Statewide Corrections Committee's contact information is:

Email: correctionsmn@gmail.com

Address: 7204 West 27th Street, Suite 113
St Louis Park, MN 55426-3112

Fax: 612-520-5820

Area 35 Corrections Chair: corrections@area35.org

Area 36 Corrections Chair: corrections@area36.org