

The background of the slide features a low-angle photograph of several modern skyscrapers with glass facades, reaching towards a clear blue sky. The buildings are partially obscured by the text boxes.

G.S.R. GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

MAY BE THE MOST
IMPORTANT JOB
IN A.A.

**G.S.R.
RESOURCES-**

**MONEY AND
SELF-SUPPORT**

Area 50 WNY

Tradition Seven

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

SELF-SUPPORTING alcoholics? Who ever heard of such a thing? Yet we find that’s what we have to be. This principle is telling evidence of the profound change that

SELF-SUPPORT-WHY IS IT
IMPORTANT?

From U.S.D., Box 478, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

Figure A.8. General Service Conference approval procedure

Finance

SELF-SUPPORT

6 G.S.O. coordinates the *Letters-Internationalists* listing Correspondence Service (L.I.S.), which is often the only link to A.A. for many A.A. members in inmate areas, household or deployed in active military service.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY G.S.O./A.A.W.S.

The General Service Office (G.S.O.)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF SELF-SUPPORT

Ten years later, as if in conclusion, Bill wrote in the A.A. Grapevine, "But again we understand: that A.A. wants no charity; that we support our own understand—but we sometimes forget."



©

WHAT DOES SELF SUPPORT MEAN?

**“AA IN ACTION CALLS FOR THE SACRIFICE OF MUCH TIME AND LITTLE MONEY”
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS COMES OF AGE**

“AA ought not be takers from society, any longer. Instead, let us be givers.”

~Bill Wilson

- **Today, AA has many ways to give to others**
- **Maintaining AA’s independence from outside influences is a responsibility every recovered AA member has.**



EACH GROUP IS AUTONOMOUS:

Tradition Four

SELF-SUPPORT:

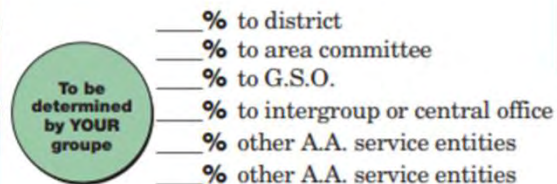
Where
Money &
Spirituality
Mix



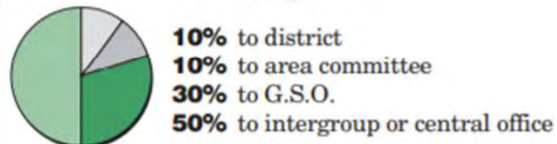
Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities

Distribution Plan of _____
(YOUR GROUP NAME)

Your Group Service # _____
(Be sure to write group name and service # on all contributions.)

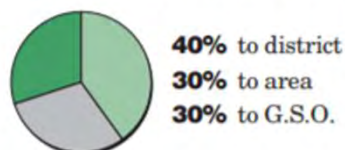


OR



OR

If you have no intergroup/central office:



SELF-SUPPORT

The Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose — to help the alcoholic who still suffers.

The amount of our contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.

Service Material from the General Service Office

WHERE DOES MONEY COME FROM?

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members.

We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise.

Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

— Tradition Seven (long form)



“Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility-one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.”

~Bill Wilson

Twelfth Step Work is the lifeblood of Alcoholics Anonymous – carrying the message to the next suffering alcoholic. Without it, the Fellowship would wither and die. Yet, even at its simplest level this vital contact between one alcoholic and another involves as investment of time and money.

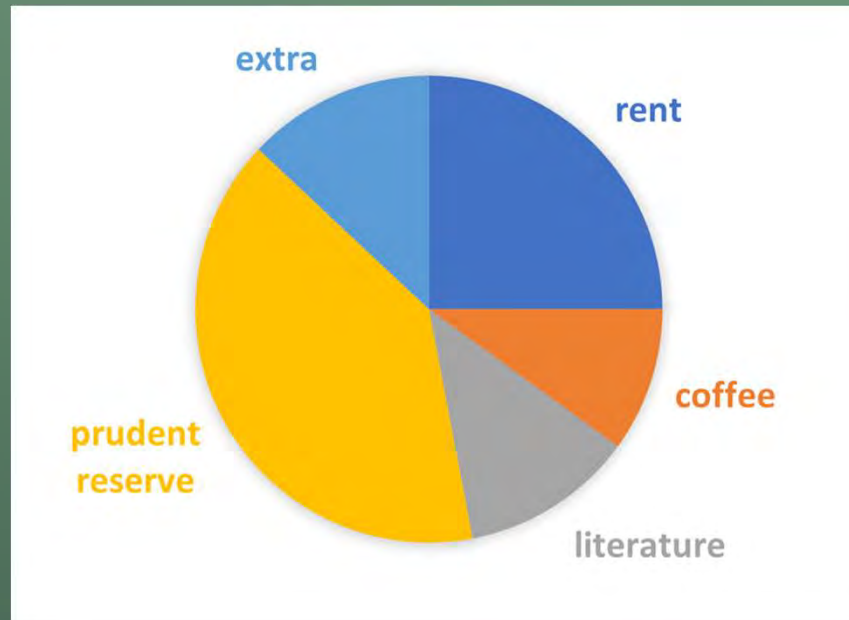
~F-3 Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Meet.

A series of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, serving as a decorative graphic element.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Although understanding why we contribute money and are self-supporting is very important, it is also equally as important to know where the funds go.

When we put money in the basket, our group uses it to pay its own expenses.



What can we do with the extra?

EXCESS FUNDS



Local District - The GSR's link to Area activities and local efforts to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic



Intergroup- Your Central Office which provides meeting schedules and literature locally as well as 12 step efforts



Area – Hosts assemblies and serves the districts, as well as your link to the Delegate



General Service Office – Publishes A.A. literature and connects us with groups and members all over North America



Specific Committees – Archives or other service entities the group wishes to support

Contributions and Self-Support

A.A.'s Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." This means that only A.A. members contribute financially to A.A. – and even A.A. members are limited in the amount they can contribute. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose – to help the alcoholic who still suffers. The amount of the contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.



[READ PAMPHLET >](#)

Our Contributions Address Has Changed!

Contributions in U.S. or Canadian dollars payable to "General Service Board" may be mailed to:

Post Office Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

[Make a Contribution Today](#)

DISTRICT 6 & 7

1

BIG BOOKS

We are stocking Free Little Libraries with big books.

2

NIGHTS OF SHARING

These events feature speaker panels that help to educate and connect members.

3

GROUP EVENTS

We support our homegroups with needs, such as speaker events

4

SCHOLARSHIPS

We support our district so that GSRs can attend events, such as NERAASA.

5

PUBLIC INFORMATION

We support initiatives that bring AA to those who need us most...the still sick and suffering.

WHERE
YOUR
MONEY
GOES...

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE:
VENMO: @DISTRICT-SEVEN

PAYPAL: DISTRICT7 AREA50