

**ACA WSO Board Report
December 2023 Teleconference (TC)
September - November Highlights**

Purpose: (as per OPPM and Bylaw II)

The sole purpose of the Adult Children of Alcoholics World Service Organization (ACA WSO) is to serve the Fellowship of Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA). It is an agency created and now designated by the fellowship of ACA to maintain service for those who might be seeking, through ACA, the means for recovering from being raised in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional home, through sharing information and experiences with one another and by applying to their own lives, in whole or in part, the Twelve Steps, which constitute the recovery program upon which ACA is founded. [Link to OPPM](#)

To Achieve its Purpose:

- 3.1 Provide public information, meeting locations, educational material and such other services as may be deemed necessary.
- 3.2 To organize and provide support service to those Meetings, Intergroups, and Regions that are registered with ACA WSO and are guided by the Twelve Steps and follow the Twelve Traditions.
- 3.3 Convene an annual conference where consideration regarding the business of ACA WSO occurs and priorities for the coming year are discussed and implemented when/where feasible.

Board Meets: Twice a month for 1.5-2 hours/meeting; Executive Committee meets twice for 1.5 hours.

Board Priorities: A Few Highlights

1. Fellowship & Public Engagement:

- ❖ Supporting our 2023 ACA Annual World Conference in November. Another amazing success, thanks to our AWC planning team, speakers and support staff/volunteers.
 - ★ 2800 attendees from 68 countries.
- ❖ Worked with the Regions/Intergroups Subcommittee for the recertification and certification requests.

2. Strengthening the Conference & WSO Relationship:

- ❖ Supported the ABC Committee facilitating the November QDM; the BPC Committee preparing for the “2024 Proposals” and; the ABC Study Subcommittee..

3. Effective & Healthy Functioning of WSO:

- ❖ Implemented a User Agreement for communication on our online platforms - Slack and Zoom.
 - ★ Increased active users from 150 to 186, 80% sign-up rate and volunteers are starting to come back into service saying they feel safer. The Slack is currently being used for committee business with increased productivity.
- ❖ Approval of a new Service Norms Policy for our WSO Committees which can also be used by our meeting groups, intergroup and regions.
 - ★ *As per Concept IX, these procedures are important for the future functioning and safety of World Services and could also benefit many of our meeting groups.*
- ❖ Strategic Retreat & Committee Summit: For the first time, chairs came together implementing Concepts IX, X, and XI.

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- ★ The Board and staff held the first in-person strategic retreat since 2019, so that we could continue the work of supporting our fellowship. By meeting in person, we had larger amounts of time to talk more thoroughly about the needs of fellowship and World Service Organization.
- ★ We reviewed the current priorities identified at the 2023 ABC and discussed the needs of the fellowship and World Service Organization moving into 2024.
- ★ At our first Committee summit, the Chairs problem-solved and discussed needs around safety, preparing future volunteers for committee work, managing expectations around authority, the ultimate authority of the group conscience, managing expectations and attrition, time management, managing chair responsibilities, service rotation, empowering and mentoring volunteers and facilitating healthy and challenging committee meetings.
- ★ The Trustees, staff, and committee chairs held a discussion on diversity and allyship which was facilitated by a member experienced in diversity, equity and inclusion work. Informative and educational, chairs were invited to fill out a survey looking at bias, the impact of bias on service, and possible solutions.

4. Financial & Business Stability:

- ❖ The Board worked with the Treasurer, staff and Finance Committee with approvals required for the filing of the IRS Form 990 for 2022 and with the development of the upcoming 2024 budget.
- ❖ We worked with the General Manager to retain a law firm for legal counsel.

As we reflect on the past year, let's celebrate our accomplishments, including:

- ★ Provided service to our 2,232 groups in over 68 countries.
- ★ Produced many new translated publications with ACA literature now available in 14 languages working with approximately 30 translation teams.
- ★ Increased health and safety in our ABC/QDMs, on our communication platforms, and in committees and teleconferences.
- ★ Increased support for our volunteers with service wellness sessions.
- ★ Completed our first committee summit, planting the seeds of an upcoming service academy while supporting Florida's Regional Conference of over 300 attendees.
- ★ Expanded our public services outreach in prisons.
- ★ Received a successful 7th Tradition response to our appeal.
- ★ Provided well produced ABC and quarterly delegate meetings with follow-up surveys. Positive feedback received.
- ★ Held a highly successful AWC with over 2,800 participants from members and 68 countries registered at our 2023 AWC
- ★ and so much more...