



## Consider Service

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*A 1 hour and 40 minute introduction to volunteering at ACA WSO*

The Consider Service Program has 2 parts – testimonials of experienced volunteers and an overview of the WSO committee system, with presentations from two committees.

This program offers a taste of Service. It is not meant to inform participants of **all** WSO committees – their purposes and connections. This is not a volunteer recruitment campaign, although the opportunity for volunteering will be emphasized. The hope is that participants may identify with current volunteers, relating to their journeys. And we hope that participants will feel welcomed and perhaps inspired to be of service, in some capacity, to WSO.

### **Welcome and Centering Breathing Exercise** (10 minutes)

Basic introductions; outline the program; rules and guidelines. The breathing exercise will offer a chance to get centered and to set an intention

### **Journeys In Service** (40 min)

These are the testimonials of two seasoned WSO volunteers. There need not be any ‘time’ qualifications – we welcome ‘newer’ and experienced. The purpose running through these service ‘shares’ would be to help participants realize that everyone began as a new volunteer, once upon a time. And that the experience came with complex feelings and self doubt.

The goal is to humanize the experience of stepping up to be of service. Some questions that might lead to those realizations could be:

- How did you first learn about WSO?
- Did you have a friend or acquaintance who may have already been volunteering?
- Did you begin as a Representative from a meeting?
- Did you have a specific interest when you first arrived? How and where did you go?
- What were you feeling? Did you participate?
- Did you reach out to other volunteers, developing relationships?

Rather than a one-way presentation or qualification, this might be better, more relatable in the form of a conversation, an interview, with an emcee guiding the discussion.

After both speakers have shared their experience (speaking for approximately 15 minutes each) program participants will be able to ask questions about the speakers’ service. A moderator will be available to call on those with hands raised. They will lower hands, circle back to previous questions as needed, and generally direct the flow of the discussion.

**BREAK – 5 MINUTES**



# Consider Service at WSO

## **Committee Introductions** (40 min)

Beyond personal journeys in service, next we learn about the functioning of committees. So as not to overwhelm the participants, we will keep the number of presentations to 2.

NOTE: WSO committees will be offered the opportunity to present at our Consider Service program. Committees are not required to participate with a presentation. It's likely we will have a few committees expressing interest.

During the program, each committee would have the floor – presenting as a team or singularly, with or without a slide show or visual aids, perhaps using the chat. However they see fit, for up to 15 minutes. The goal is to offer program participants a sampling of the work that is done by that committee. They will likely touch on any volunteer opportunities. The moderator will keep an eye on the time.

After the two presentations, the participants will have an opportunity to ask questions about the committees. The moderator will call on those with their hands raised, keep the discussion focused and generally direct traffic. The moderator will have some basic questions on hand to ensure a 10 minute discussion.

## **Final Thoughts** (5 minutes)

To conclude the program we will offer some insights into the WSO committees. First and foremost, we will direct participants to fuller information. We will screen share some of the web pages from [acawso.org](http://acawso.org). We can note:

- the listing of committees on the home page, perhaps viewing some.
- where the committee reports can be found.
- the committee calendar which shows upcoming meetings.
- the quarterly Board Meeting with the Fellowship.

We will offer an invitation for members to join us on a **WSO Field Trip**, noting upcoming adventures. Finally, we could bring the participants to the Service in ACA (Volunteer) form and show them how it works, and what to expect.

Our event would conclude with a Serenity Prayer.

For answers to questions about this program, write to [vrc@acawso.org](mailto:vrc@acawso.org)