

Area 14/15 Corrections Workshop October 14th

Area 14/15 Corrections Workshop 1:30 - 4:30 at East Side Club in Orlando

About 39 in attendance

Drinks of coffee, water and soda were provided along with snacks of muffins, chips, cheese, fruit, cookies, etc

Introductions and Welcome from A14 and A15 Area Corrections Chairs (Nicole and Mike)

A14 shared there are 27 prisons and 17 work camps in North Florida. There are 6 new meetings - 5 state and 1 federal. A15 shared there are 67 counties in Florida and 3rd largest prison system.

Everyone in the room introduced themselves.

Bill Wilson's letter to a prison group was read.

First panel of two members was "What it's like to find A.A. on the inside"

Billy N., Area 15 District 8 Palm Beach Gardens, Past Delegate Panel 49 and former Trustee 2013-2017

Spoke of Tom I and his history with being behind the walls then sober and a warden. A.A. meetings are their meetings. The outsiders that come in are not there to run it just help them facilitate their meeting. A.A. Comes of age book. Importance of tablets and getting their literature. Could there be an A.A. channel on satellite radio for jails/prisons?

JJ Area 15 District 5

He got the message inside and never wants to go back there to live. There is a sponsorship program in District 5. It's not sponsoring people but meetings, correspondence and pre-release. Anyone can do this service work!

Second Panel of two members "What it's like to bring A.A. behind the walls"

Tom F Area 15 District 2 Tampa

Corrections service work is like opera - you love it or hate it and will go to any lengths to participate or not. Right now it's 2-3 months to get cleared to go in which is way too long.

Kenny L Area 14 Palm Coast

Stand on the front lines of A.A. And God will keep you unharmed

Speaker was Chaplain Robert Sanders

Your time and attention is the greatest gift. We (the institutions) want you there. We see the results of the meetings. Addressing the app process - the FBI told us all wrong. The online platform had issues and hired new company to fix the problems. 70% of the people come out and we want them to have hope.

Q & A

Outside sponsors - they get on the inmate visitation list and come on regular visiting days/hours. It is one on one but monitored.

General Service Office Corrections Desk - Ranier is new Staff member on the desk. They have audio books that can be downloaded. Pay is most common with tablets. Most used is Big Book and Living Sober.