

# Corrections Desk Activity Update

June 2024

To: Area and District Corrections Chairs

cc: Regional Trustees, Area Delegates

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Warm greetings from the Corrections Desk here at the General Service Office (GSO) US/Canada. It is so nice to be in touch with you all again.

If you are a new Corrections Chair – welcome aboard! As many of you know, your Area Registrar can update information in our Fellowship Connection database for new committee chairpersons; although some new committee chairs contact us directly to provide their contact information. In any event, please continue to reach out when changes are made so we can continue to have the most up to date information to send you current information from the office.

## **National Corrections Conference:**

For those who may be interested in attending, the 7th Annual National Corrections Conference will be held November 8-10th, 2024 in Charlotte, NC

Here is the link to their website - <https://nationalcorrectionsconference.org/>

I will be attending and look forward to meeting you all in Charlotte!

I am pleased to share the following **highlights** that I hope you find useful as you carry the message to those inside the walls.

## **74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference**

A corrections committee of the 2024 Conference Committee on Corrections requested that the staff member on the Corrections desk gather shared experience on how local corrections committees encourage and engage members in corrections service. The collected shared experience would be available upon request from the Corrections desk. We are developing a brief survey which incorporates various areas of interest related to members doing service work on the inside of correctional facilities.

The committee also suggested that AA Grapevine consider including shared experiences on how to encourage and engage A.A. members in Corrections service within their July prison issue.

## **Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS)**

### **We are still seeking A.A. members to correspond with persons in custody who:**

- Spanish speaking men from the eastern US to correspond with persons in custody.
- Women participants in the U.S. who are persons in custody.  
To expand our participant list in Canada, both inside and outside.
- We also need participants who identify as Transgender and Non-binary to correspond with participants on the inside.

**How can you help? Please share the CCS sign up forms with your home group, at the various correctional settings you visit and any other A.A. event you attend. Sign-up forms and pre-stamped envelopes are available at GSO at no cost due to your Seventh Tradition contributions to the A.A. General Service Board.**

Here are the *revised* sign-up forms:

- <https://www.aa.org/corrections-correspondent-sign-form>
- <https://www.aa.org/corrections-correspondence-service-insider-request-form>

## **Mail and Processing Centers**

With the implementation of Third-Party Mailing Processing Centers, we have received additional feedback that has allowed us to explore new logistical operations for sending mail. When carrying the message on the inside of Correctional Facilities, we ask of you to survey those who write to the General Service Office Corrections Desk. We ask this so we can get some additional information regarding facilities and our level of consistency when sending and receiving mail. If there are any variables or hardships, we prefer to know. Please email the corrections desk with all related information: [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org)

## **Digital Literature Behind the Walls**

Conference-approved AAWS and AA Grapevine copyrighted eBooks and audiobooks are available on tablets and desktops in the various correctional settings in the U.S. and can now be accessed by people who are incarcerated and by the professionals who serve them. Thanks to the Seventh Tradition contributions of members, we have contracts with several vendors so we can provide literature at no cost to people behind the walls.

### **February 2022 – April 2024 (26 months) Highlights:**

- 451 facilities throughout the US have accessed A.A.W.S. digital literature.
- 25,094 unique starts total
- 11,769 unique completes total

**What can you do?** Let corrections professionals know that we have contracts with many major tablet vendors including ViaPath, Edovo/GTL, Securus-Jpay or Ingram CoreSource – OverDrive that provide A.A. and AA Grapevine literature. Literature is available in the “Recovery” section of the tablet.

Please contact [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org) for additional information.

### **Corrections Kit Contents & Other Service Material Available Online**

Please visit the “Corrections-Committees” <https://www.aa.org/corrections-committees> section of GSO’s A.A. web site where corrections literature and service material is available.

### **Corrections Kit (M-45I)**

The Corrections workbook has been updated and is available for purchase at the online bookstore <https://onlineliterature.aa.org/>

### **Sharing From Behind the Walls Newsletter**

The Spring issue of the newsletter <https://www.aa.org/sharing-from-behind-the-walls> is available on the aa.org website for those who want to make extra copies for people in custody (Area and District Corrections Chairs automatically receive this) The newsletter is published three times a year and contains excerpts of sharing from letters from persons in custody that are sent to this desk. If you need a reminder about how valuable your A.A. service is, please read these sharing.

Please take advantage of the previous editions available in English, French, and Spanish. They can continue to be effectively used

### **Corrections Assignment Travel**

I will be visiting Area 81 New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island Canada to attend the **June 21st Dorchester Intramural Group 75th group anniversary** (*Dorchester Medium*).

**The corrections coordinator will also visit other correctional facilities conducting meetings on the inside while visiting Area 81, including:**

**Friday, June 21st Hilltop Group** (*Dorchester Minimum*)

**Saturday, June 22nd Faithful Group** (*Springhill Medium*)

To further understand corrections in Canada, the corrections assignment has developed a questionnaire which will be published in a future issue of Box-459.

### **International Weekly Corrections Online Meeting**

The purpose of the meeting is to share experience in *carrying the message* to the inside members. Trusted servants meet to discuss best practices and learn how to implement

them in their own Areas. **Everyone is welcome** at this meeting, especially present and past correction chairs, and anyone who is interested in A.A. corrections service.

**Meeting ID: 841 1036 5604 (no password needed). The first and last Sunday of the month meets at 6pm (EST) all other Sundays meet at 11am (EST).**

**Thank you for your service.**

Nick S.  
Corrections Coordinator  
GSO Staff

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