

# **Corrections Desk Activity Update**

February 2025

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.

## **Digital Literature Behind the Walls**

Contracts with various vendors have enabled AAWS and AA Grapevine literature to be available on tablets found in

the various correctional settings in the United States. This is a new service that continues to expand. The available literature has expanded to have newsletters such as **Box 4-5-9** and **Sharing from Behind the Walls**, along with the addition of the **Plain Language Big Book**.

The **Tablet Literature list** has been added to the Contents of the Corrections Kit as a new service material. The Tablet Literature List gives a title listing of all available literature through JPay-Securus and Edovo/GTL tablets.

There were **39,280** unique total starts with A.A. e-books from February 2022 to November 2024 with **19,494** titles completed. There are **1064** correctional facilities throughout the US that have accessed A.A.W.S. digital literature through Edovo tablets.

### **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.

**The corrections desk is also looking for committees or members to provide us with sharing for how they have found tablets to be useful when carrying or receiving the message of A.A.**

Please contact [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org) for additional information or to share experiences as it relates to A.A. literature on tablets.

## **Survey on Corrections-**

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. On October 3, 2024, the survey was sent out in three translations (English, French, and Spanish) to Delegates, Area Corrections Chairs, District Corrections Chairs, H & I chairs (Area and District), Bridging the Gap Chairs (Area and District), and listed active Correctional Groups.

The survey was completed as of December 16, 2024.

The desk continues to extrapolate the information and arrange the information from this survey to make this shared experience available for local A.A. corrections service questions and queries.

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

As of December 2024, this is the total amount of volunteers doing CCS:

### Inside Members:

2,836 Male  
694 Female  
3,530 Total

### Outside Members:

1,500 Male  
1,176 Female  
2,676 Total

**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.

### **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>

### **What can you do?**

When bringing meetings to correctional facilities please ask members if they have signed up for corrections correspondence service, and if their outside matches have contacted them. If there are issues related to communication, please contact the corrections desk so we can properly provide this service and determine the issues related to why the members were not matched.

## **Electronic Mail and Third-Party 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 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)

The desk also continues to review and keep records of third-party electronic mailing systems to review if this will become a new standard for communication moving forward in corrections settings. Some vendors we have been exploring are: Jpay.com Textbehind.com Pigeonly.com and GTL.net Corrlinks.com, and ConnectNetwork.com (GTL).

### **What can you do?**

If you have shared experience when it comes to sending mail to inside members through digital messaging, when performing Corrections Correspondence Service, please contact the corrections desk.

## **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. website where corrections literature and service material are available.

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

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

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

The Winter issue of the newsletter [Sharing from Behind the Walls](#) is available on the aa.org website for those who want to make extra copies available 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's.

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

The Corrections desk has made more information available for incarcerated members through the newsletter. The newsletter will include information on the *Plain language Big Book* being released, as well as any new material that has been made available on tablets.

### **National Corrections Conference:**

For those who may be interested in attending, the 8th Annual National Corrections Conference will be held November 7-9th, 2025 in Nashville, TN.

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

### **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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