

Corrections Desk Activity Update

June 2025

To: Area and District Corrections Chairs
Area and District BTG Chairs
Area and District H & I Chairs

cc: Regional Trustees, Area Delegates

From: Nick S., Corrections Coordinator
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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.

International Convention 2025

International Convention 2025 Service Opportunity

Service Committee Watch Party Viewing Registration

The General Service Board approved the Service Committee “carry the message tool” purchase of the 2025 IC Virtual Program Session Track.

1.A Service Committee Chairperson Watch party coordinator must pay one \$35.00 (USD) registration fee to attend the Virtual Program Session Track.

Please use the following link to register for the Service Committee “Watch party” viewing option:

[Service Committee Watch Party Viewing Registration](#)

2.The coordinator will need to work out the viewing details with the management of each facility for those who are unable to attend because of incarceration or a lockdown in-patient treatment setting.

We can’t wait to see you at the “Virtual” International Convention 2025!

Date: Friday, July 4rd, 2025, to Saturday July 5th, 2025

Where: On a Zoom Webinar
(we will send a link closer to date)

Closed captioning in preferred language provided
([Wordly.ai](#)).

Eight Exciting Sessions to Attend! ***Please note these are all Pacific Standard Time (PST)***

Friday, July 4, 2025: 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM PST	A.A. Around the World Call Up I *
Friday, July 4, 2025: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM PST	Online Meetings, Are We Hiding Behind Our Screens?
Friday, July 4, 2025: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM PST	Unity: The Most Cherished Quality
Friday, July 4, 2025: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM PST	Living Sober
Saturday, July 5, 2025: 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM PST	A.A. Around the World Call Up II *
Saturday, July 5, 2025: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM PST	H.A.L.T.
Saturday, July 5, 2025: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM PST	Intensive Work with Other Alcoholics
Saturday, July 5, 2025: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM PST	Celebrate Sobriety

* First sessions of the day will have participation from the “Zoom Room”. The other workshops will be livestream only.

Stay tuned during session breaks for video and audio productions from AAWS sharing Experience, Strength, and Hope!

First 20 groups to sign up for Watch Parties will be asked to join the session live!

Questions? Please email 2025ic@aa.org

Correction Committee Survey

The corrections desk completed a survey in 2024 which can be made available upon request for trusted servants who may be new to this type of service. Please contact corrections@aa.org for additional information on the survey.

Additionally, the desk continues to receive shared experience from groups on the inside, and we encourage trusted servants to continue to share these experiences about group activity behind the walls so we can continue to build our repository of information and shape service material to reflect this.

The corrections desk continues to need more shared experience for meetings behind the walls that conduct their meeting in French or Spanish. We look forward to learning more about meeting formats and group activities taking place languages other than English to improve our limited sharing in our repository.

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 Corrections desk and the Publishing team are working with the vendor Edovo to have over 30 pamphlets uploaded to our available literature to be updated by July 2025.

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.

Additionally, we have updated the **AA Grapevine Literature list**, please contact the Corrections desk if you would like more information on available literature or analytics for your area.

There were **52,394** unique total starts with A.A. e-books from February 2022 to April 2025 with **26,374** titles completed. There are **1220** correctional facilities throughout the US that have accessed A.A.W.S. digital literature through the vendor Edovo.

The **PLBB** has **1,195** unique starts in TOTAL (November 2024 – April 2025) with **105** unique completes in TOTAL (November 2024 – April 2025) **The Newsletters Highlights include 338** unique starts in April 2025 and **145** unique completes in April 2025.

What can you do?

Let corrections professionals know that we have contracts with many major tablet vendors including ViaPath, Edovo/GTL, Securus-Jpay, Ingram CoreSource – OverDrive, and Smart Communications that provide A.A. and AA Grapevine literature. Literature is available in the

“Recovery” section of the tablet or by entering the title in the search que.

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 for additional information or to share experiences as it relates to A.A. literature on tablets.

Corrections in Canada

The corrections desk recently met with the Correctional Service Canada where we provided contact information for Area trusted servants and provided information on the services coordinated by the General Service Office. The CSC has informed the corrections coordinator that they look to improve their footprint in Corrections Correspondence, and look forward to meeting more regularly to support that effort.

The corrections desk is also looking for committees or members to provide us with sharing on Escorted Temporary Absence (ETA). We look to continue to build our repository of shared experience on this particular topic, where we can develop service material to be shared with other members who may have this opportunity.

Accessibility in Corrections

If you serve members behind the walls that are Deaf/Hard of Hearing, there are resources that currently exist, many of which are available on deafaa.org [Ⓐ]

To see a list of A.A. resources available to help those facing accessibilities, check out the [Accessibility Resources flyer](#).

Please reach out the corrections desk if you would like additional information on this subject.

Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS)

The corrections desk has begun an inventory and clean sweep of all contacts in CCS on the outside and inside of correctional facilities to maintain better contact information for this special service.

As of May 2025, this is the total amount of volunteers doing CCS:

Inside Members:

2,810	Male
749	Female

Outside Members:

1,497	Male
1,225	Female

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.
- French speaking participants in the Canada/US

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

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 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.

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 most current 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. 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 this shared experience.

This newsletter will no longer be mailed to members outside of correctional facilities but will remain available on our website for free where it can be accessed and printed.

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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