

NEWSLETTER

SOUTH EAST LONDON INTERGROUP (WEST)

THE MANY REWARDS OF BEING A GSR

It has been said many times that the Group Service Representative is 'the most important service position within the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous'. The GSRs have the job of linking their groups with AA as a whole and are essential to the working of the AA service structure.

Members taking on this service role have reported an increase in self-confidence, an ability to handle responsibility, greater humility, a much wider circle of AA friends, improved organisational skills, a better perspective of the bigger AA picture, a feeling of usefulness and a greatly enhanced recovery and, in the same way that the individual member grows, learning to take part in the wider world, so the AA group grows spiritually by becoming involved in the wider circle of the Fellowship. An AA group can and should have a voice in the running of the local and national AA services that continue to attract newcomers, and will also benefit from the greater level of unity with other groups by participating in this service.

In many respects therefore, the unity of the Fellowship rests in the hands of the GSR, and so taking on this service commitment is a tremendous opportunity to take on a unique responsibility on behalf of an AA group, by becoming the direct link between the group and all other groups in the Intergroup area. The suggested sobriety time for this service role is at least two years.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Telephone service Team Leaders with experience of either the previous office-based setup or the new home system are needed. Telephone shifts are going unmanned due to a shortage of Team Leaders, which means that the opportunity to help a still suffering alcoholic is lost. Refresher sessions are available for any former Team Leaders to become familiar with the new online system.

Telephone service volunteers are also urgently needed. One year of continuous sobriety and regular attendance at AA meetings is required.

The main purpose of telephone service is to put the still suffering alcoholic in touch with an individual AA member or AA group. Telephone service is done from home, so there will be no need to travel anywhere. It is possible to volunteer for just a few hours per month, or more depending on individual circumstances.

Please contact ltts-volunteers@outlook.com for details.

PRISON SERVICE

Members are needed to do chairs in local prisons. Please contact prisons.ls@aamail.org should you be interested.

SERVICE POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT INTERGROUP

All service positions at Intergroup are vital to keep AA running and healthy. There follows a list of service commitments currently available at SELIG(West) that you, someone in your group or a sponsee would benefit from doing:

Telephone Liaison Officer

The Telephone Liaison Officer is responsible for co-ordinating the working of the Intergroup's telephone service activities.

Secretary

The Secretary has the responsibility with the Chair for preparing the agenda and minutes of the Intergroup's meetings and for distributing these documents to the groups, as well as ensuring that the General Service Office is promptly provided with a copy of the minutes. The suggested sobriety time is two years.

Responder and Twelfth Step List Co-ordinator

This role involves maintaining a list of local responders and twelfth steppers in order to support the working of the Telephone Service. The suggested sobriety time is one year.

Armed Services Liaison Officer (ASLO)

The role of the Intergroup Armed Services Liaison Officer is to establish local links with The Royal Navy, The Army and The Royal Air Force, and any other organisations connected with the Armed Services such as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) and Veterans-UK. The suggested sobriety time is two years.

Probation Liaison Officer

The Probation Liaison Officer is responsible for establishing links with the Probation Services and keeping Intergroup informed on a regular basis. The suggested sobriety time is two years.

Prison Liaison Officer

The Prison Liaison Officer is responsible for supporting the sponsorship of prison groups. The suggested sobriety time is three years.

Share Liaison Officer

The Share Liaison Officer provides the essential contacts between members, groups and the editorial teams, and will actively encourage the contribution of articles and letters, and the promotion of the magazines. The suggested sobriety time is one year.

Employment Liaison Officer

The Employment Liaison Officer has the responsibility of carrying AA's Message to employers within the Intergroup's area; employment specifically concerns any organisation employing or serving staff companies, trades unions and associations, government departments and/or related agencies. The suggested sobriety time is three years.

Young People's Liaison Officer (YPLO)

The YPLO will be someone who came into AA at the age of thirty or younger. The service commitment will involve establishing close working relations with other service disciplines, in particular the Public Information Officer to assist with presentations where the audience is likely to include a significant proportion of young people, such as talks to schools, universities and young offenders' institutions etc. The suggested sobriety time is two years.

Regional Representative

The Regional Representative is the link between the Intergroup and Region in a similar way that the GSR is the link between the group and Intergroup.

Should you feel you could commit to any of these service positions, please contact SELIG(West) Chair, Angela L on 07425 906867 or email: angela.lacey@gmail.com

HELP NEWCOMERS TO FIND MEETINGS.....

It is very important that correct details of AA meetings are available online, as many newcomers start their search for a meeting either online or by ringing the AA helpline (which uses the online information). Please therefore keep the aa-london.com website informed with the current status and details of your meeting.

Existing meetings can be updated by clicking on "ADD OR UPDATE A MEETING" on the aa-london.com Home page.

Any details updated with aa-london.com will be automatically forwarded to our General Service Office to be updated on www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk (unless members opt not to), thus avoiding the need to update twice.

Next Intergroup meeting

SELIG(West) will be holding its next meeting at Camberwell Green United Reformed Church, Love Walk, SE5 8AE on Wednesday 26th March 2025 (7.15pm for a 7.30pm start).

Please note that any AA member is welcome to attend as a visitor to find out more about what goes on at Intergroup.