

DISTRICT INVENTORY DISTRICT 5 GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE ONLINE INVENTORY SURVEY SUPPLEMENT

MAY 2016

About this report:

- **BACKGROUND:** As part of the bi-annual District Inventory practice, District 5 sought to gain insight from its groups and members. The primary and well established practice was to have GSRs meet with their respective groups to review 23 questions related to various aspects of District 5's state of affairs.
 - Concurrent with that process, the District 5 DCM Committee deployed a simple online survey with fewer questions, designed to seek individual AA member's insight.
- Feedback from the GSR Group Conscience sessions were reviewed at the GSR Sharing Session which preceded the May 17, 2016 District 5 Business Meeting, as were preliminary survey responses.
- **CAUTION:** Due to the limited number of respondents, the survey responses in this report are not fully representative of the District's opinions, feedback, etc. Instead, this data, especially the comments, helps us understand some opinions of some members. The report may be useful as a supplement to the primary District Inventory practice. Beware that the data shown (percentages and graphs) should be considered as directional in nature, and are not statistically representative of District 5.

INVENTORY SURVEY RESULTS

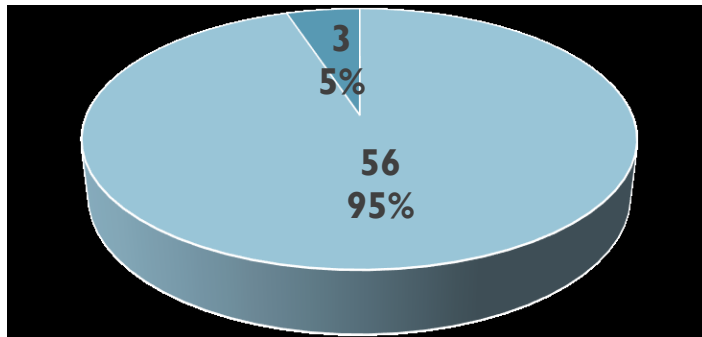
59 RESPONDENTS

Format – 12 Questions each w Open Ended Comment Field, 1 Suggestion Field

- **Q1 Are you aware that District 5 serves AA Groups in the following towns:**
- **Q2 Considering the # of alcoholics in District 5, are we involving enough AA's in our District Meetings, Committees, and Events?**
- **Q3 Do we have adequate participation at our District 5 business meetings?**
- **Q4 Is our District being financially responsible to the Groups?**
- **Q5 Is there enough being done in District 5 to promote service and sponsorship?**
- **Q6 Are you aware of opportunities to learn about the different service positions, committees, and the General Service structure?**
- **Q7 Are our District 5 meetings informative and enthusiastic?**
- **Q8 Does your home group's GSRs attend Area Quarterly Assemblies?**
- **Q9 Are your groups receptive to the information your GSRs reports about the Area 15 Quarterly Assemblies?**
- **Q10 Does your home group GSR attend District 5 meetings, workshops, service fairs and other functions?**
- **Q11 Is your group fully informed of District 5 business?**
- **Q12 In the past 6 months, have you participated in any of the following:**

Q1: ARE YOU AWARE THAT DISTRICT 5 SERVES AA GROUPS IN THE FOLLOWING TOWNS:

59 Responses

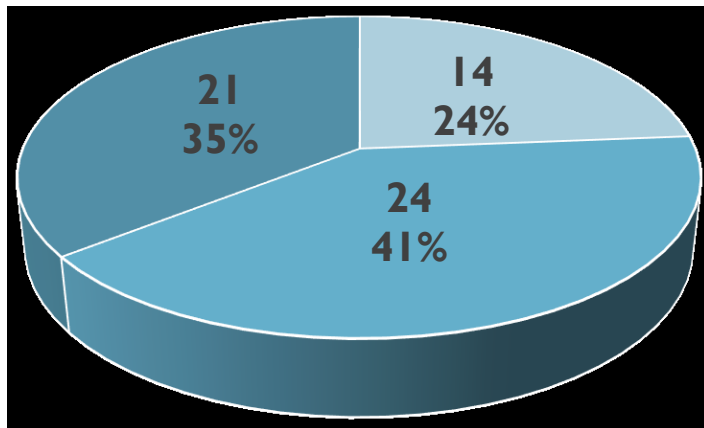


■ Yes ■ No

- Arcadia
- Boca Grande
- Englewood
- Fort Ogden
- Nokomis
- North Port
- Port Charlotte
- Punta Gorda
- Venice

Q2: CONSIDERING THE # OF ALCOHOLICS IN DISTRICT 5, ARE WE INVOLVING ENOUGH AA'S IN OUR DISTRICT MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, AND EVENTS?

59 Responses



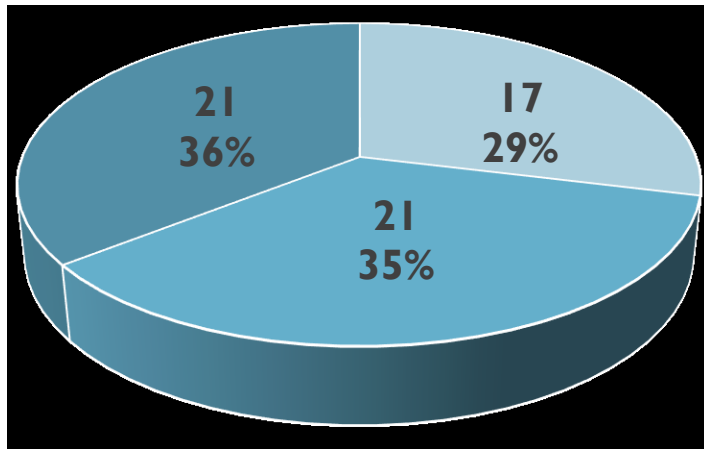
■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

COMMENTS - VERBATIM RESPONSES EXACTLY AS ENTERED

- Don't know what District 5 does to carry the message. Our intergroup office in North Port does good work.
- Because of the political nature involved it is not always a good thing for all members
- Don't really know, but only because I am a newcomer with 118 days and happily and gratefully attend meetings daily.
- I feel there is a small Gsr involvement compared to the # of groups. How can we get more group representation? Perhaps GSRs should attend a meeting of a group without GSR representation, and explaining to the group the benefits.
- No Spanish speaking
- not a bad idea to make work to offer members and groups service opportunities. Supplying literature racks that the group pays for police stations, hospital lobbies etc.
- not nearly enough for the amount of groups we have
- We are certainly trying

Q3: DO WE HAVE ADEQUATE PARTICIPATION AT OUR DISTRICT 5 BUSINESS MEETINGS?

59 Responses



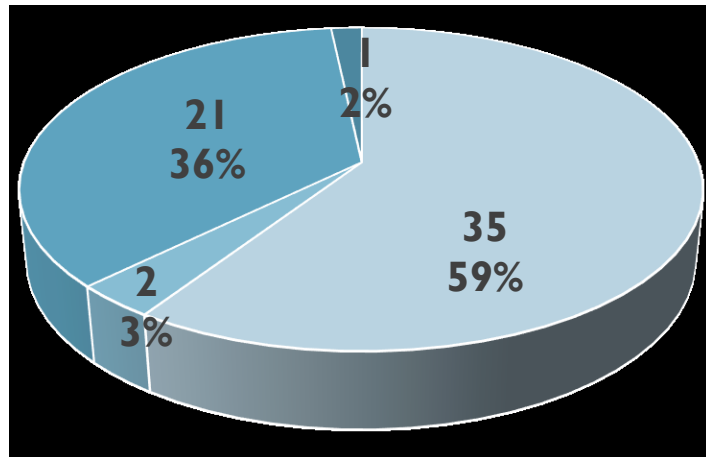
■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

COMMENTS – VERBATIM RESPONSES

- Don't really know, but only because I am a newcomer with 118 days who happily and gratefully attends meetings daily.
- I am a group rep but rarely go to the district meetings. Not your fault!
- not that I have seen in the last 11 years

Q4: IS OUR DISTRICT BEING FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE TO THE GROUPS?

59 Responses



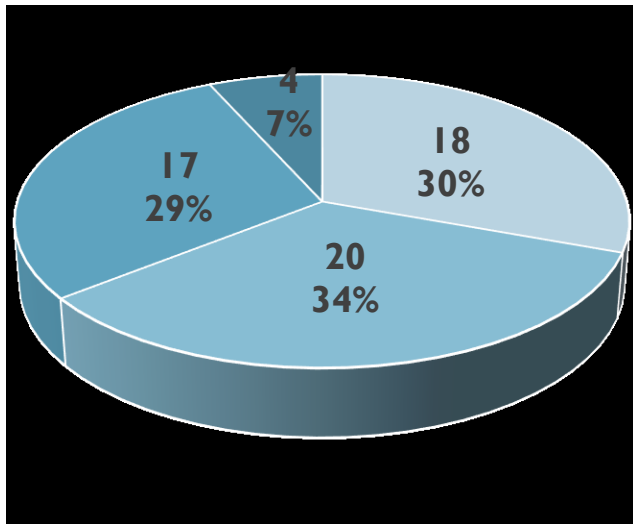
■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ blank

COMMENTS – VERBATIM RESPONSES

- Probably in terms of being transparent as to how district funds are spent. There is no doubt that our group officers are indeed trusted servants. I think it would be useful to ask if groups are financially responsible to the district--do groups support the district not only by sending group contributions but also by supporting group members involvement in committed, financially supporting GSR attendance at quarterlies, etc.
- TO MY KNOWLEDGE, YES
- we have been upfront on finances all along

Q5: IS THERE ENOUGH BEING DONE IN DISTRICT 5 TO PROMOTE SERVICE AND SPONSORSHIP?

59 Responses

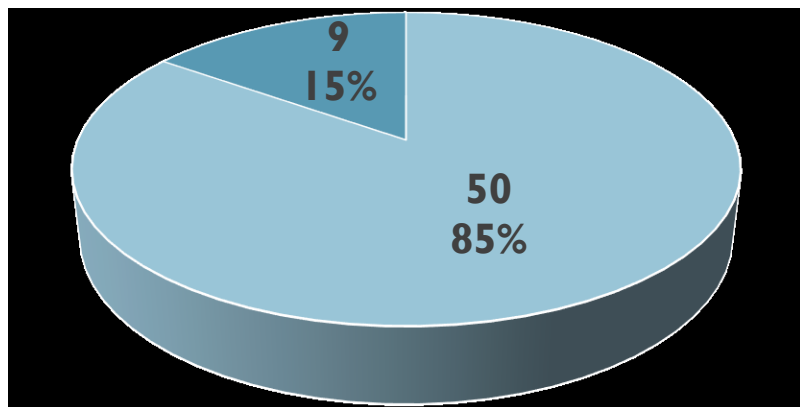


■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ blank

- My home group & the H&I committee do good service & sponsorship.
- Always can do more, but this requires greater group involvement, circles back to GSR issue.
- District tries their best to be of service and sponsorship is great.
- don't hear enough about it at meetings
- Don't really know, but only because I am a newcomer with 118 days who happily and gratefully attends meetings daily.
- I do think workshops on sponsorship might be valuable. It is through our sponsors that many of us learned of the value of service and opportunities beyond the group level.
- i have lived here 2 years and have only heard of one service workshop. why not have smaller, more frequent ones in various parts of the area.
- I haven't seen much promotion relative to service and poor leadership by sponsors.
- I think we can do better
- There can always be more but needs a focused effort by a committee
- we have been upfront on finances all along

Q6: ARE YOU AWARE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ABOUT THE DIFFERENT SERVICE POSITIONS, COMMITTEES, THE GENERAL SERVICE STRUCTURE?

Total



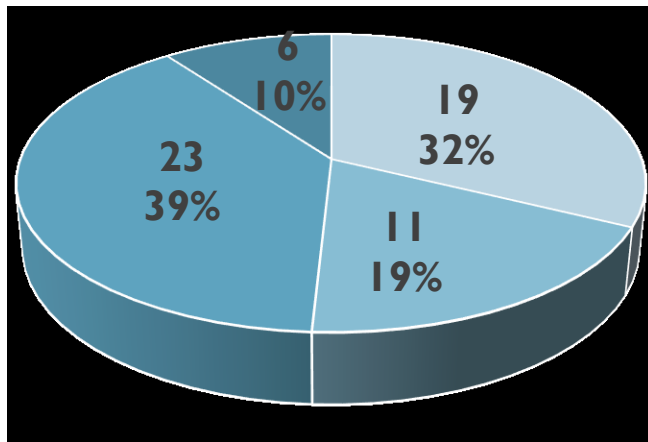
■ Yes ■ No

COMMENTS – VERBATIM RESPONSES

- i have been in the service structure so i am aware, most aa members i meet have no idea.
- I know it's out there, I just need to apply myself to look deeper
- I've seen very few workshops in the past 3 years. Few other opportunities to participate for the fellowship and ineffectual advertisement of service meetings.
- The GSR and AGSR needs to inform the group more.

Q7: ARE OUR DISTRICT 5 MEETINGS INFORMATIVE AND ENTHUSIASTIC?

59 Responses



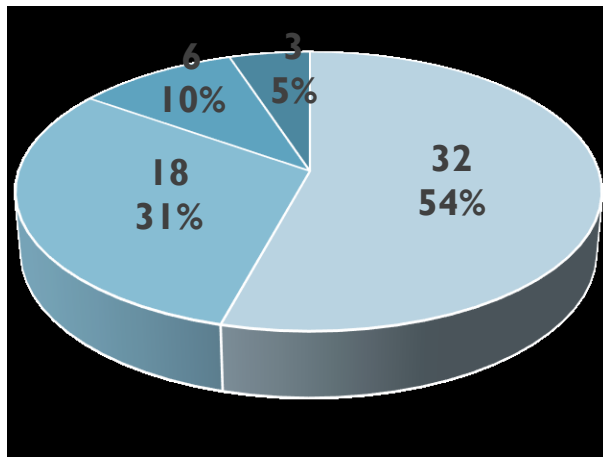
■ Yes ■ No ■ DK-never been ■ blank

COMMENTS – VERBATIM RESPONSES

- But would be better if more people attended
- I dropped out of service, temporarily, because of a personality conflict
- I need to be involved longer to answer accurately.
- Mine is
- Need to be more succinct, follow timed agenda, decrease unnecessary discussion of unrelated issues. Need better chair
- They are exceedingly lengthy. There are too many reports given verbally. New business begins when people have run out of steam. Add that to the travel time for those on the edge of the district and the time exceeds what an evening commitment should entail.

Q8 DOES YOUR HOME GROUP'S GSR ATTEND AREA QUARTERLY ASSEMBLIES?

59 Responses

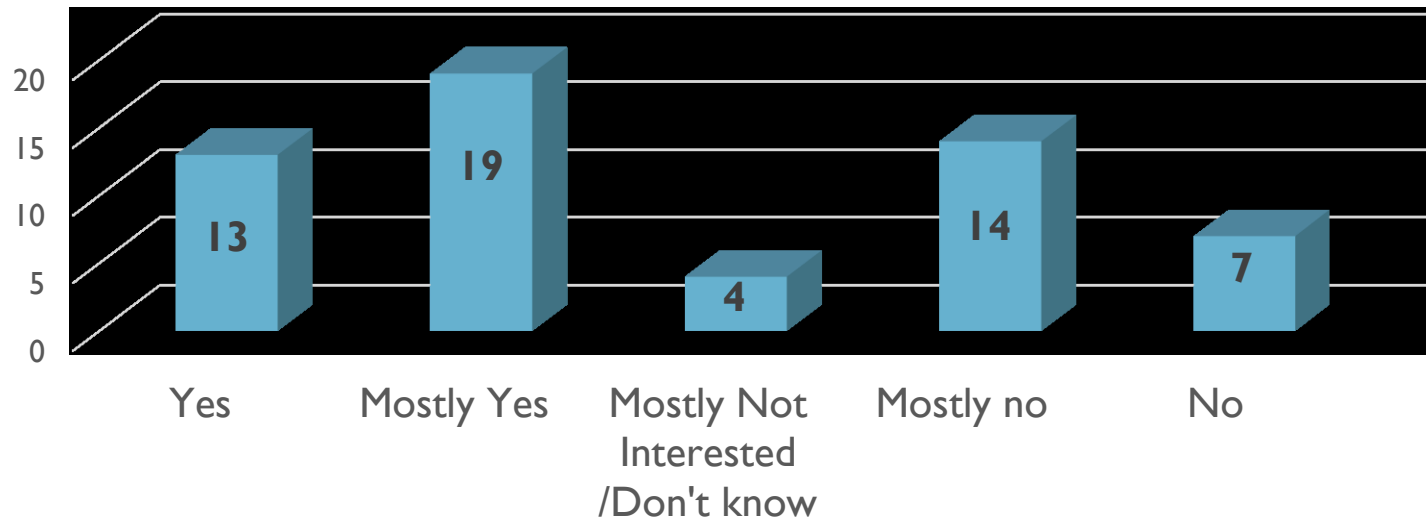


■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ Blank

- I've been in the service structure so I'm aware, most aa members i meet have no idea.
- I know it's out there, I just need to apply myself to look deeper all the quarterlies seem to do is ask the groups for more money for the next one and nothing else
- Don't have GSR, no budget for her or him to attend area mtv
- Has work comments on weekends, cannot attend Area Quarterly.
- Not every quarterly as our group finances are not such to support attendance. The GSR pays out of pocket when attending.
- Sometime
- That's me and I've been attending. Good Financial support from home group for future GSRs who could not otherwise afford to attend.
- We need to be more active.
- We pay a portion of expenses from group treasury
- When close
- I've seen very few workshops in the past 3 years. Few other opportunities to participate for the fellowship and ineffectual advertisement of service meetings.
- The GSR and AGSR needs to inform the group more.
- No rep. + Don't have one

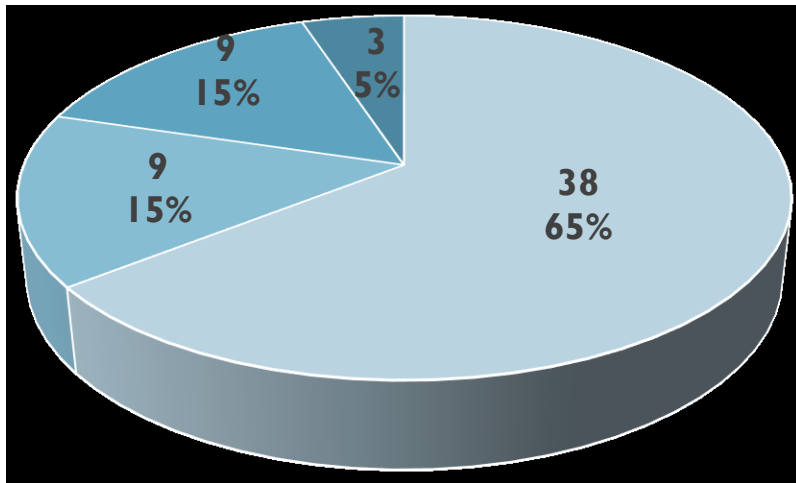
Q9: ARE YOUR GROUPS RECEPTIVE TO THE INFORMATION YOUR GSR REPORTS ABOUT THE AREA 15 QUARTERLY ASSEMBLIES?

Are Groups Receptive to GSR?



Q.10 DOES YOUR HOME GROUP GSR ATTEND DISTRICT 5 MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, SERVICE FAIRS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS?

59 Responses

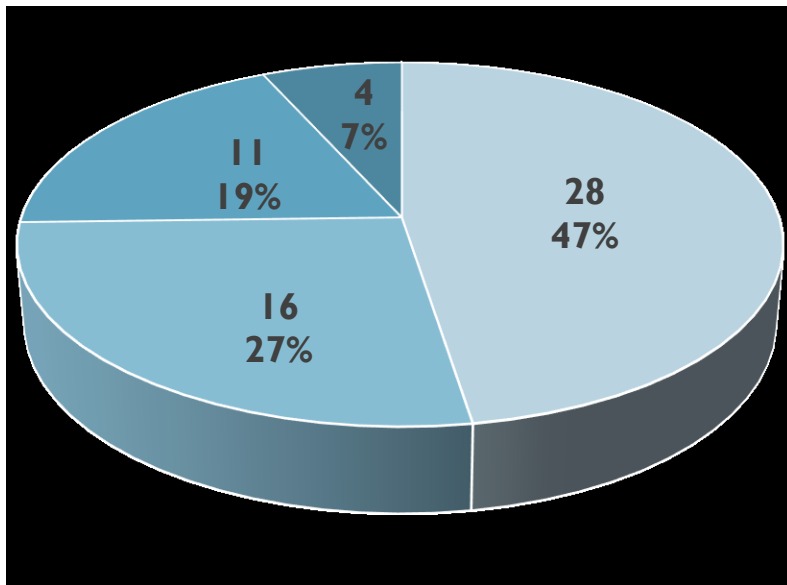


■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ blank

- Again anything during the week is attended by our GSR, weekends not so much.
- and im still not sure why
- As much as they can.
- primarily just meetings
- Sometimes
- was gsr and term ended after 6 yrs. no one wants to get involved.
- Don't have a GSR
- Don't have gsr

Q.11 IS YOUR GROUP FULLY INFORMED OF DISTRICT 5 BUSINESS?

59 Respondents

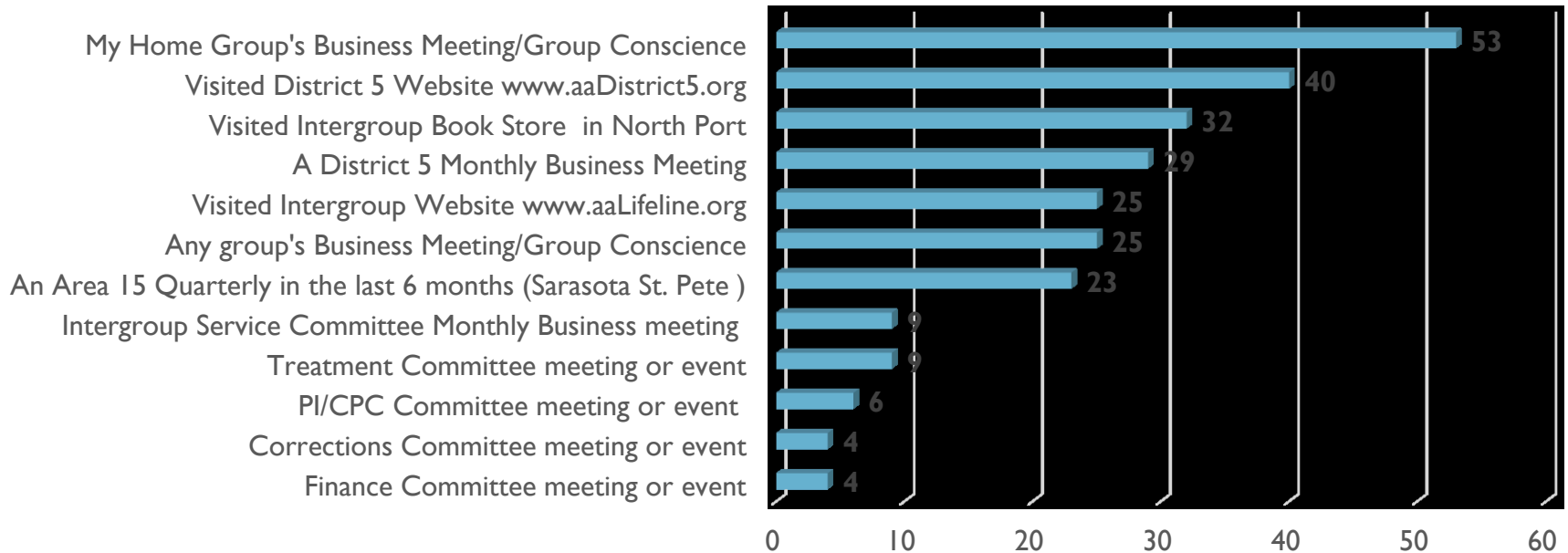


■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ blank

- AN AREA I NEED TO DO BETTER WITH
- District Committee member reports to the groups that i am part of.
- Don't really know, but only because I am a newcomer with 118 days who happily and gratefully attends meetings daily.
- Entered: Home group gets updates from reps who function as reps for other groups.
- Fully informed, probably not. Reasonably informed, probably.
- Not interested when presented information. Do not allow adequate GSR monthly report
- Usually....from our GSR and IGR at our monthly meeting
- We try, get the minutes and sift through pages and pages when our GSR is sick and Alt is gone
- would like to see more paperwork flyers, reports etc. Website seems "out of sight out of mind"

Q.12 IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS, HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

Activities Reported from 59 respondents



Q.12 COMMENTS

(IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS, HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING)

- haven't been there in past 6 months
- AA is my recovery system and program, I do not get politically involved
- This was filled out at groups business meeting
- I CHAIR THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE
- I read the minutes from the GSR when I can, for our Group Conscience

OPEN SUGGESTIONS – PAGE 1 OF 3

PLEASE SHARE ANY SUGGESTIONS, ISSUES, OR CONCERNS ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUR DISTRICT:

- Provide dessert at District meeting, Larger meeting room, Contact group service rep or contact by phone, Advertise subject of GSR workshop, Send weekly District messages to groups
- Start a new Area in SW Florida. Start a new Area in SW Florida. Start a new Area in SW Florida. Start a new Area in SW Florida. {Note same suggestion 4x consecutively}
- MORE PEOPLE FOR 10:00 AM MEETINGS On Aque Esta Dr. Punta Gorda
- stop the quarterly nonsense, all u talk about is how to raise money for the same
- more workshops get more people involved
- i am sure that many people go to the internet for information. i don't think of it. I have always kept in touch with service and serve opportunities by word of mouth, flyers, local service meetings, and service information workshops. now 71 traveling too far at night is not for me. not alone here. think service needs to come to groups or clusters of groups. As an area chair up north i did lots of this and many who had no understanding of service beyond the group got inspired , turned on to service etc. some could care less,

OPEN SUGGESTIONS – PAGE 2 OF 3

PLEASE SHARE ANY SUGGESTIONS, ISSUES, OR CONCERNS ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUR DISTRICT:

- You're doing a great job. I'd like to see/hear more during an average meeting about promoting district 5 events or opportunities
- More opportunity to obtain room at area meeting hotel site.
- DCMs should be financially compensated in a better fashion in order to attract all members interest. Too much reliance on DCMs and GSRs to fund their own trips to area meetings
- Life line in print was discontinued, would like to see it back.
- MY CONCERNS AT THE MOMENT ARE MORE FOCUSED ON WHAT I NEED TO DO TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE GSR.
- I will become involved with district again, in some capacity when others "currently involved" move on.
- It is hard to get people motivated to attend especially night meetings. We are a morning meeting and most people are up at 5 or 6 a.m. I think you do a better job than where I go up North. We are down buying medallions and literature often at Intergroup. It hasn't been my turn in the past 6 months. I used to print the Lifeline for our Group and put the hard copy out for members. I print much off the website for our literature table. So even if you don't have as many hits on the website, your website content is being read by our Group Members. I still print flyers etc.

OPEN SUGGESTIONS – PAGE 3 OF 3

PLEASE SHARE ANY SUGGESTIONS, ISSUES, OR CONCERNS ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUR DISTRICT:

- Please thank the Lifeline people for us for all the years, and your website people as well.
- I love being involved, so I try to share this with others, but I could do more, & will make more of an effort in the future, by volunteering on PI/CPC COMMITTEE in the near future in addition, resuming the district liason position for the district. I've missed The connection during my "sick leave" !
- Keep the GSR sharing to a 1/2 hour.
- We need more and better group participation. Maybe we could have a workshop based on the AA Group pamphlet, or GSR responsibilities and suggested sobriety and duties of service positions in General Service.
- Seriously, the district is too large! Too many groups. If all groups GSRs attended district meetings, there would not be room in the space. Many meetings' attendance fluctuates seasonally, as do their finances. Therefore attendance at quarterlies may be dependent on the GSR's personal finances.
- There seems to be a lack of concern for service work in the Englewood area and I personally believe it is do to weak sponsorships.
- DCM's ought to attend groups they "represent " and ask to attend a business mtg so as to inform groups which do not have a GSR