

# District Five Literature Committee Report

## August 2020

### GSR Kit in Digital Format

GSO has created the contents of the [GSR Kit in digital format](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_GSR_list.pdf) [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/en\\_GSR\\_list.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_GSR_list.pdf)

Nearly everything that comes in the physical GSR kit is available digitally at this link. With this easily accessible and available information, new GSRs need not be in the dark about how they can best serve their groups from the moment they are elected.

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### Summary of Discussion Regarding Distribution of Funds

During the pandemic, Committees have not exhausted their budgets because we do not have our usual expenses such as photocopies and hotel expenses.

At the June District meeting, at the direction of the Finance Chair, GSRs voted that \$1800 in unused funds would be contributed to Intergroup (\$1200) and GSO (\$600).

At the July meeting, the Treasurer announced that there was \$2500 in unused funds and that the GSRs should go back to their groups and again decide how the money should be amongst between Intergroup, GSO, and Area. No information was provided about the financial needs of the three entities making it impossible for groups to make an informed decision about how to distribute funds.

The question was also raised: why are District funds being distributed to Intergroup, which is a “separate, but vital” service that is outside of the General Service structure. In fact, why are the funds being distributed outside of the District?

It appears that the GSRs are being instructed to distribute District funds in the same way that a group decides how to contribute money in excess of their prudent reserve. A group and a District are two different entities and each distributes excess funds according to different guidelines. Part of the confusion seemed to arise because some members think that Intergroup is part of the [upside-down triangle](#); it is not. District is part of the General Service structure. Intergroup is a separate but vital service.

[Structure of the Conference](https://www.aa.org/content-files/en_pdfs/en_StructureOfTheConference.pdf) [https://www.aa.org/content-files/en\\_pdfs/en\\_StructureOfTheConference.pdf](https://www.aa.org/content-files/en_pdfs/en_StructureOfTheConference.pdf)

The discussion was not intended to diminish the importance of Intergroup. We just want to make it clear that contributions to Intergroup should come from the groups and not from the District. The group’s IGR, not the GSR, should present the financial needs of Intergroup to the home group. The functions of GSO and Intergroup are different. Each deserves equal recognition from groups as they decide how to contribute, but when the groups distribute money to District, it is with the expectation that we will use it for twelve step work within the District.

GSRs were referred to the Service Manual for information about General Service and to the [A.A. Guidelines for Intergroup](#) for information about Intergroup. [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/mg-02\\_centralorinter.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/mg-02_centralorinter.pdf)

During the GSR sharing session we discussed Informed Group Conscience. GSRs should have all the information they need before Voting. Because of the spiritual nature of the program, the usual majority/minority rule does not apply. In A.A. we strive for consensus. GSRs might consider tabling a motion when sufficient information is not available.

GSRs have the right of decision. If during a discussion the GSR hears new information that they believe would change their group vote, they have the right to change their vote based on the new information.

A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/en\\_bm-31.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_bm-31.pdf)

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### **Committee Activity**

On July 29, Jeanette C. and Gayle F. made a presentation to the other districts in the Area. Both presentations were enthusiastically received.

Jeanette C. presented our [Literature Committee website page https://aadistrict5.org/?page\\_id=85](https://aadistrict5.org/?page_id=85)

(District 8 is copying our District Literature home page to use for their Literature Committee home page.)

Gayle F demonstrated how to screen-share the Preamble, Daily Reflections, How It Works, and the 7th Tradition card from aa.org. Most recently, Gayle created a virtual "[Newcomer Packet](#)" which groups can use to provide newcomers with pamphlets from aa.org.

[Newcomer Packet https://sites.google.com/view/newcomerpacket](https://sites.google.com/view/newcomerpacket)

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### **Letter to District 5 Chair**

August 8, 2020 [letter to Diane P.](#)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kLE08e9\\_58-7YV8bFiRq\\_QTy1vfwj7x1/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kLE08e9_58-7YV8bFiRq_QTy1vfwj7x1/view?usp=sharing)

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