P75 Motions Background

PLEASE NOTE: This document is created verbatim from excerpts of the published minutes of the Area Committee Meeting (ACM) and Area Assemblies. It is not intended to replace the minutes but to provide a quick reference resource to assist in gathering an informed group conscience. Questions? Contact the Area Recording Secretary at <u>recordingsecretary@cnca06.org</u>.

UPCOMING MOTIONS

Summer Conference Assembly – August 2, 2025

- To add an inventory question to page 30 of the pamphlet, "The A.A. Group", that reads: Do our group members know where to find up to date information about A.A. on the websites and newsletters of central offices and intergroups, districts, areas, aa.org, and A.A. Grapevine? - Presented by District 12 Sonoma at the Area Committee Meeting on September 28, 2024
- That CNCA06 request that A.A. produce a public information service piece with a simple and consistent message, including QR codes, that could be used across the United States/Canada service structure. And to request that AA use the service piece in a public information campaign. *Presented by District 01 Monterey*.

Area Committee Meeting (ACM) – June 28, 2025

- <u>That</u> CNCA06 create an ongoing, regularly scheduled Sharing Session on Safety and Inclusion – *Presented by the District 04 (Santa Clara North) Safety Committee*
- <u>That</u> CNCA publish the *Comments* and *Comentarios* exclusively in a digital format.
 Presented by Chase C., DCMC District 70 Alameda South, and Meg B., CNCA Technology Chair.
- That CNCA 06 fund one member from the Web Committee to attend in person the 2025 National A.A. Technology Workshop not to exceed the budgeted cost of \$1200. – Presented by the CNCA Web Committee

ASSEMBLY MOTIONS

• To add an inventory question to page 30 of the pamphlet, 'The A.A. Group', that reads: Do our group members know where to find up to date information about A.A. on the websites and newsletters of central offices and intergroups, districts, areas, aa.org, and A.A. Grapevine/La Viña? – *Presented by District 12 Sonoma at the Area Committee Meeting on September 28, 2024 and at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 5, 2025.*

09/18/2025 ACM – Presentation of New Business:

ACM Presentation: Judah N., DCM from District 12 Sonoma presented. This was brought to the subdistrict by a past delegate. In discussing the question at the subdistrict level, it became evident that not all GSRs are aware of where to find such information. Through discussion, they agreed that it would be helpful to add this as an inventory question. The subdistrict presented it to the district, and it was unanimously voted in favor.

Clarifying Questions: Q: Would this eventually become a proposed agenda item? A: Yes, if it follows the process and is approved at the Area level, it could be submitted as a potential agenda topic. // Q: Is it only websites and newsletters, or is it other digital forms, for example, an app? A: It's for websites and newsletters. // Q: Have you considered describing it as aa.org and AA Grapevine instead of GSO in New York? A: We would be open to an amendment to add the Grapevine. // Q: Would you consider adding "s" to reflect intergroups, districts, and areas? A: If that's grammatically correct, we would do that. // Q: Instead of what it says now, would you consider "aa.org and A.A. Grapevine" instead of GSO in New York?' A: Yes. //Q: Did your subdistrict or district consider any other avenues to achieve the same idea, other than this pamphlet? A: The District agreed this pamphlet would be a good avenue. // Leslie. Q: Did you consider writing the literature standing committee and asking them to add it to an existing printed pamphlet without having to go through a new business process? A: No. If it gets approved and submitted by the Area, the literature committee could autonomously decide to add it. *Revised* motion: To add an inventory question to page 30 of the pamphlet, "The A.A. Group", that reads: Do our group members know where to find up-to-date information about A.A. on the websites and newsletters of central offices and intergroups, districts, areas, aa.org and A.A. Grapevine? Vote by simple majority to keep the motion at the ACM or present it at the next Assembly. Voted by Simple Majority to forward to the Assembly. << Motion will become a Presentation of New Business at the Preconference Assembly on April 5, 2025. >>

04/05/2025 Pre-Conference Assembly – Presentation of New Business:

Assembly Presentation: This motion was first presented at a sub-district and then brought to the full district. After discussion, GSRs collected group consciences, and the district unanimously voted to bring the motion to the Area in December of last year. The ACM agreed it should be decided at the Assembly. The intent of the motion is to add a thoughtful inventory question to encourage group discussion about whether members have access to current AA information resources at all service levels. The question is drawn from the inventory section of the AA Group pamphlet, pages 29–30. We are asking to include 14 questions instead of 13.

Clarifying Questions: Q: What was it in the sub-district that propelled this motion? What was brought up at the sub-district? A: This this arose because the GSRs at the sub-district meeting didn't know where to find online information on A.A. and that prompted the idea to add a question to the pamphlet to generate awareness and discussion. // Q: When this was discussed, how much was focused on the "The AA Group" pamphlet versus providing feedback on how to find information? A: The intent is to generate conversation in the groups about where this information exists. // Would you like to add language about finding resources in more places and specifically general service, such as on the websites and newsletters of central officers and intergroups, General Service districts and areas, H&I, etc. A: For now, we would like to keep the wording as it is. // Q: Would this be added specifically as question #14 on page 30? // A: Yes. <<**Wording of motion amended:** "To add an inventory question to page 30 of the pamphlet, 'The A.A. Group', that reads: Do our group members know where to find up to date information about A.A. Grapevine/La Viña? >>> <<**Motion to become New Business at the Post-Conference Assembly on May 17, 2025**>>

05/17/2025 Post-Conference Assembly – New Business:

Discussion: *Group consciences:* Felton Group unanimously approved this. // My group also unanimously supports it. // We believe this will be a useful tool coming from General Service, because many people don't know this information exists. // It would be beneficial to all groups. // We support adding the inventory question—it helps inform members about available resources. // Very important addition. Many don't know where to find information about A.A. One minority opinion said there's already plenty of info. Another person didn't even know the pamphlet existed. // Two people said to leave the pamphlet as is. // Adding this will help us get better, more current information and encourage doing a group inventory. // Our group agreed unanimously. // My group was against it—they felt most people already know this info. Two long-timers didn't even know how to use the internet. The minority opinion supported it, saying it would show people how to find the information. // We felt this would help members better serve the fellowship. // Our group fully agreed—it's a great idea. Even if not discussed, just seeing the question might inspire people to

seek out the information and bring it to their group. // Thank you for the ASL interpreters-I'm a Deaf member. My group was unanimously in favor. Newcomers often don't know where to find current info on aa.org or our District site. We'd also like more awareness of DeafAA.org. // My group thought this was a good question to help all members find info and help us recommend resources to newcomers and people who can't access audio content in La Viña. // Personal opinions: if you're going to add this info to the pamphlet, include the General Service app. // Most groups don't do inventories – adding this might prompt more. In Texas, inventories were common. When I moved here, no one even knew they were supposed to do one. // There's room to amplify this content within the other inventory questions. // We should raise awareness of how to access A.A. info, especially for younger members. // In the Latin American community, there's less access to information. This should go out as widely as possible. // By adding this question, we'll recognize what needs to be done so new members can access the information. It prompts us to ask what we're doing for newcomers and how we can communicate better. // I like the idea but personally feel our focus should be on providing vision. Are we nitpicking? We have so many pamphlets - are the other questions outdated? Do we need a separate pamphlet just for inventories? Is this the best use of Conference time for a single question in a single pamphlet? // GSRs will report back to their groups about this assembly and about this pamphlet. The agenda topic process will generate wide conversation across the Fellowship and how to find information and that will be the benefit. // << Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 2, 2025.>>

• That CNCA06 request that A.A. produce a public information service piece with a simple and consistent message, including QR codes, that could be used across the United States/Canada service structure. And to request that AA use the service piece in a public information campaign. — *Presented by District 01 Monterey at the Area Committee Meeting (ACM) on March 22, 2025 and at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 5, 2025.*

03/22/2025 ACM - Presentation of New Business:

Presentation: This motion is inspired by ads for Human Trafficking seen in airports and churches simple, direct, and featuring QR codes. The idea hit me that this could be an agenda item. I imagined a public info service piece reading "Are you having a problem with drinking?" with aa.org and two QR codes: one linked to a landing page created and maintained by GSO, and the other to the Meeting Guide App. The problem this proposed agenda item addresses is that our membership is not growing. According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 209 million people worldwide have alcohol dependence. A.A. has remained around 2 million members since 1990. This idea aims to reach those who don't yet know about A.A. and help grow our fellowship. The motion was developed with input from 12 A.A. members, whose suggestions were incorporated into the proposal. District 01 voted unanimously to pass the motion. In conclusion, we feel it would be beneficial for A.A. to have a simple, consistent message that conveys in seconds: if you're having a problem with alcohol, A.A. is here—what A.A. is, and how to find it now. Placed widely, it could plant seeds for those still stumbling in the dark to someday find the light, just as we have.

Clarifying Questions: Q: Is this leaning towards promotion? A: I don't know. // Q: How is this different from the PI posters that GSO already has available on their website with room for a QR code? A: This would already include QR codes maintained by GSO, making them print-ready with no changes needed and ensuring a consistent message across AA. // Q: I wanted to clarify—by service material, do you mean posters and other marketing materials? A: I produced a sample business card of what I was thinking, but it could be anything—social media, printed materials, etc. // Q: Do you want to specify in the motion that GSO produces and prints this material? A: My service sponsor helped me with this wording. // Q: Do you feel the current service material is not adequate and that's why you are proposing it? A: Yes. // **Voted by Simple Majority to forward to the Assembly. <<Motion will become a Presentation of New Business at the Preconference Assembly on April 5, 2025. >>**

04/05/2025 Pre-Conference Assembly – Presentation of New Business:

Presentation: This motion was inspired by ads for Human Trafficking seen in airports and churches—simple, direct, and featuring QR codes. The idea hit me that this could be an agenda item. I imagined a public info service piece reading "Are you having a problem with drinking?" with aa.org and two QR codes: one linked to a landing page created and maintained by GSO, and the other to the Meeting Guide App. According to service material from the General Service Office, our membership numbers grew from our inception in 1935 to 1990. From 1980 to 1990, membership doubled from about 1 to 2 million. But from 1990 until 2021, the last year on the report, membership has remained around 2 million. And in 2021, membership dropped below 2 million for the first time since 2006. Assuming membership has remained around 2 million the last 4 years, this means our membership numbers have been stagnating for 35 years and whatever we've been doing during this time has not been working to grow our membership. According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 209 million people worldwide have alcohol dependence, an estimated 2.6 million deaths per year worldwide are attributable to alcohol consumption, and of those deaths 13% are aged 20 to 39 years old. The problem is, our membership is not growing and there are estimated to be hundreds of millions of alcoholics worldwide. This is an idea to reach them. The motion was developed with input from 12 A.A. members, whose

suggestions were incorporated into the proposal. District 01 voted unanimously to pass the motion. In conclusion, we feel it would be beneficial for A.A. to have a simple, consistent message that conveys in seconds: if you're having a problem with alcohol, A.A. is here—what A.A. is, and how to find it now. Placed widely, it could plant seeds for those still stumbling in the dark to find the light someday, just as we have.

Clarifying Questions: Q: Are you suggesting we spam airports with stickers? Can you speak about the distribution. A: The language of the motion is being kept broad so it doesn't prescribe how it will be delivered. // Q: Should it say GSO instead of A.A.? A: The wording is being kept broad so it doesn't direct whether its GSO, the Board, etc. // Q: What do you mean by information campaign? A: It's being kept open broadly. In AA, we do Public Information (PI) work, we do Public Service Announcements (PSAs). PI is not only condoned and allowed it is essential to reaching and informing alcoholics. // Q: Who is going to make this piece and how much will it cost? A: That will be decided by the Board if it passes. // Q: Is your intent to find out if all the areas in the US/Canada think this is good idea? A: Yes, the intent is to have it be an agenda topic at the Conference. // Q: Is there any interest in working with YPAA committees and groups? A: I'm not sure how to answer that in relation to this proposed agenda item. <<**Motion to become Presentation of New Business at the Post-Conference Assembly on May 17, 2025>>**

05/17/2025 Post-Conference Assembly – New Business:

Discussion: Group consciences: We support the PI piece including the QR codes. // We are in favor, we concluded it's not promotion its providing information to the public. For example not having to bring so many pamphlets during PI presentations. // My homegroup is a women's group and we believe that a QR code is a simple and easy way to carry the message. Somebody said it would be a good experience to scan the code and find the info on A.A. quickly. One person is in a PI committee and they use a QR code and it is very useful. // When travelling, they use lots of QR codes and they think it would be good in A.A. // My group is in favor and we think it will help people find A.A. Put them in bathrooms because that's where people hit their bottoms. // The majority were in favor of QR codes, they are useful and accessible for young people. Everybody has a cell phone. // My group was mostly against it. They felt that the cost wouldn't worth it, that it was promotion, and the money would be better spent on H&I. // A few members felt it would be a great tool for PI because their group is using a QR code in their own 12th step work. // Many people don't know where A.A. is and the outreach would be good. Minority opinion was asking what the line between attraction and promotion, what would be involved in this campaign, and it would be more useful to improve SEO optimization. // Would the

stickers create liter, some places wouldn't let us put stickers and end being trashed. One person said it was a security issue because a QR code can be changed and send someone to where its not good to go. // It's not promotion just answering questions. Public places is a good idea. No need to punch in web address, QR code takes you right there. // Largely in favor. We think it will reach the public in a A.A. that our current pamphlet do not. // Majority in favor. Some feel QR code would carry the message quicker and more accessible. It would be very efficient. // My district is excited to have stickers we can put on bathroom doors. We think it would be a "god shot" to many people. // It would be a great PICPC tool and increase membership. // We belive this would make info on A.A. quicker. The info is available elsewhere but many people are not tech savy to receive it. Minority opinion was concerned about costs. // Q: A question was asked during our District sharing session where they can see examples. [Motion-maker responded]: A: Examples were handed out at PRAASA and at the Pre-Conference Assembly. // People wanted to know how this would be accomplished and felt it was too ambitious and difficult. They suggested that stickers could be printed that we could put our own Intergroup and District hotline numbers. // My group supported it, but a member asked where else could we put this QR code aside from bathrooms. // Personal opinions: We forget how hard it is to find information in the world today – there are QR codes everywhere. // I'm concerned this motion is being interpreted as promoting stickers. I'm against stickers; they feel promotional and unattractive. // I also worry about stickers ending up where they're not wanted. I support service pieces, not stickers. [Chair reminds the body that stickers are not mentioned in the motion.] // When A.A. began, it was one alcoholic talking to another - that's what we need more of, not more cards and pamphlets. We should be less anonymous and reach out directly. // At a school PI event, no young person took a pamphlet, but all had phones and scanned the QR code. // I like the idea, but we need more than pamphlets. The Area should help groups do PI work. My group just elected a PI chair. This connects to pamphlet question 12 about professional outreach. // If this passes, I hope it goes to high schools. I'm a mom and care about the next generation. // Anything that improves communication helps. I'm on PI and can't always carry cards -QRs would make it easier. // We used to have a bus placard: "If you drink, it's your business. If you want to stop, it's ours." My group wants to bring that back. // From an accessibility lens, this idea has merit. I got sober on Zoom - tech is essential. We need to stay open. // My company discourages using QR codes in public - they can be spoofed and hacked. You don't know what site you'll land on if you scan a random one. // My district uses QR codes heavily. We should adapt. Let's educate members on QR code safety and usage. The motion mentions a service piece, not stickers. // In 1990 we had 2 million members. In 2024 we still have 2 million. 34 years flat. // The stats don't worry me - it's about quality of sobriety, not quantity of members. Not just about more people on the website. // I agree we need more outreach. I'm unsure if QR codes are the best way, but we must do something. // Longtimers are staying home after the pandemic. We need

new platforms to reach people – direct them to the Meeting Guide app. // At our Access table, we have six QR codes linking to service materials. But we can't forget face-to-face connection. // There are five PI service cards with space for local QR codes. Was the motion maker aware? // A: Yes. The cards are for local committees. This service piece would have standard info linking to aa.org. // We must remember not everyone has smartphones. Many can't access digital resources. // I got a phone book with the wrong number for the local A.A. office. Local information is often inaccurate. // At Pre-Conference, I liked the image of a sticker in a bathroom. But public QR codes bring real security concerns and potential legal issues. It feels promotional. // This could be useful for professional outreach. // I came to A.A. from a therapist's referral. The second time was pamphlets at a medical office. Professional outreach matters. A bathroom QR sticker has risks. // The motion says A.A. should produce the piece. But "A.A." is all of us groups, districts, Area. My group already has a QR code flyer for outreach. "Public info takes many forms." // In A.A., we say we need something and someone already has it. Regardless of the motion, groups and districts can make materials now. PICPC already has examples and resources. // What about those who can't access websites? How do we reach them? // A judge told me about A.A.. Google doesn't see our slogans as promotional. Our name needs to be out there more. // Bill and Bob went into institutions and shared about A.A.. I didn't know about PICPC until recently. We should go to jails, courts, doctors - talk directly. Our literature says, "A more important demonstration lies ahead of us in our homes and occupations." Share at work or school. One alcoholic talking to another. // If QR codes are risky, why not just print aa.org or an 800 number? // <<Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 2, 2025.>>

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (ACM) MOTIONS

• That CNCA06 create an ongoing, regularly scheduled Sharing Session on Safety and Inclusion – *Presented by the District 04 (Santa Clara North) Safety Committee at the Area Committee Meeting on May 24, 2025*

Presentation: Our Twelve Traditions tell us that A.A. is inclusive – that everyone who has the desire to stop drinking is welcome. Yet in District 04's recent Safety in A.A. survey, many members reported experiences of sexual harassment, predatory behavior, or feelings of exclusion due to spiritual beliefs, disability, gender non-conformity, or racial and ethnic differences. Sometimes these members are met with love and tolerance – as is our code – but often they are not. Some are told to find another meeting or are left to navigate harm on their own. This motion proposes that CNCA create a Sharing Session on Safety and Inclusion. The purpose is to offer a structured space for members to share experience, strength, and hope around creating safer, more inclusive A.A. environments.

We hope to identify best practices and explore Tradition-based responses to challenges in group life. This would be an ongoing session, open to all, rooted in love and service.

Clarifying Questions: Q: Is the intention for this to be an in-person hybrid sharing session on the morning of the ACM? A: Yes. // Q: Will this sharing session also cover safety topics related to medication? A: Yes. // Q: Would making it hybrid require renting a room and running Zoom? A: [Chair confirms] Yes, a room rental and Zoom setup would be needed. // Q: Who would be invited to attend? A: Sharing sessions are open to all interested A.A. members. // Q: Since all sharing sessions are interpreted, there would be a cost of one hour of interpretation in addition to the room rental, correct? A: [Chair responds] Yes, that is correct. // Q: Will these safety materials be available to the fellowship? A: Many draft materials are already available on the District 04 website, and once finalized, they will be translated into Spanish. // Q: Will members of District 04's Safety Committee be available to support the sharing session? A: Yes. // Q: Will there be an elected chair, or would a session coordinator change month to month? A: Yes, members will be elected or volunteer to serve from session to session, similar to the Spanish linguistic sharing session. // Vote (Simple Majority): Remain at the ACM (28) / Forward to the Assembly (21). <<<The motion will remain at the ACM and become New Business on June 28, 2025.>>>

• That CNCA publish the *Comments* and *Comentarios* exclusively in a digital format. – *Presented by Chase C., DCMC District 70 Alameda South, and Meg B., CNCA Technology Chair.*

<u>Original Wording of Motion</u>: That CNCA exclusively publish digital Comments/ Comentarios.

<u>Presentation</u>: The purpose of this presentation is to ensure transparency between CNCA and our groups and remove barriers to accessing the digital *Comments* and *Comentarios*. The history of our newsletter dates back to the Panel 27 Delegate, Dean K., who began writing an unofficial newsletter in 1977. In 1981, the Panel 31 Delegate proposed that CNCA have an official Area newsletter, and by 1987, the printing and mailing of the *Comments* was formalized. In 2005, an Ad Hoc Committee reviewed options to add digital distribution to the print mailing. In 2021, a motion was presented that digital distribution be the default method of sharing unless a print copy was requested, and the Assembly approved the motion in 2022. A digital newsletter Ad Hoc was formed and recommended that the Area use Mailchimp. As of April 2025, there are 868 digital subscribers on Mailchimp (769 English, 99 Spanish), with a 57% open rate and no print requests. In 2022, the cost of printing and mailing \$6,909.87 for the *Comments* and \$334 for the *Comentarios*. Currently, digital distribution costs just \$35. All registered GSRs and

DCMCs are subscribed automatically. As the newsletter continues evolving, we hope members will find it easier to access and stay informed about the work of the Area.

Questions: Q: Is it true that to register as a GSR or to serve in General Service, you must have an email address? A: Yes, that's true. // Q: Would you consider using the word "provide" instead of "publish"? A: No. [Delegate clarified that "publish" is standard terminology and refers to digital or electronic publication.] // Q: Does the digital version have a print button to produce a formatted printable version? A: Yes. // Q: Will there no longer be a printed copy, so if someone doesn't have email or computer access, they won't be able to receive it? A: That's correct. The motion proposes discontinuing printed distribution. // Q: If a District or group wants to print and distribute it themselves, could they? A: Yes. Districts or individuals are free to print and share as they choose. // Q: Can you detail what barriers this motion would eliminate? A: This helps eliminate the burden on the Area of maintaining a print distribution system. It encourages members to ask for help setting up email if needed. Any accessibility issue related to print can be addressed by printing at home or through a District. Online access also allows for font enlargement and other accessibility features. The process of printing required a team to create a separate version, coordinate pickup, pay for printing, pack, stamp, and mail. We did this for 34 copies last panel, and zero this panel. We're asking to be relieved of that burden. // Q: But printing the digital version is still long – like 42–60 pages, depending on format. A: Yes, it can be lengthy, but again, we are removing the Area's burden, not restricting others from printing it. // Q: Is this motion being brought through the Accessibilities Committee? Have you consulted members who don't have access to technology? A: We did consider that and discussed it at last month's meeting. The motion shifts the responsibility of printing to others if needed. Also, digital access can actually enhance accessibility through features like zooming in text. // Q: Would the motion prohibit creating a simplified, print-friendly PDF version? A: No, it would not. The trusted servants who produce the *Comments* and *Comentarios* would have the autonomy to create and include such a version if needed. // The motion was amended to read: "That CNCA publish the Comments and Comentarios exclusively in a digital format."

Vote (Simple Majority): Remain at the ACM (34) / Forward to Assembly (10). <<<The motion will remain at the ACM and become New Business on June 28, 2025.>>>

 That CNCA 06 fund one member from the Web Committee to attend in person the 2025 National A.A. Technology Workshop not to exceed the budgeted cost of \$1200. – Presented by the CNCA Web Committee at the Area Committee Meeting on May 24, 2025

Presentation: No additional presentation.

Clarifying Questions: Q: Are we already sending a representative from our Area through the Technology Committee. A: Yes. // Q: This expense is a part of the annual budget that the Area votes to approve each year as a housekeeping, correct? A: Yes. // An objection was made. <<The motion will become New Business at the Area Committee Meeting on June 28, 2025.>>