

Manhattan General Service Meeting

*Information  
for you on  
how it works*

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GSR SERVICE



# *Getting started*

A.A.'s Twelfth Step suggests that we carry the message of recovery. That is the basic service that A.A. provides. Any action that helps A.A. to function as a whole is service. Most A.A. members start out providing service in their group.

**For A.A. to run its own affairs,** each A.A. group needs to make its voice heard on overall A.A. policies. This starts with a group's general service representative (G.S.R.), who represents the voice of the group conscience and has the job of linking his or her group with A.A. as a whole. G.S.R.s make sure their groups receive services from the U.S. and Canada General Service Office (G.S.O) and help groups stay informed about worldwide A.A.

P-45 Circles of Love and Service



# *GSR's in Districts*

Every group in an area is encouraged to send its G.S.R. to its area assembly. The D.C.M.s help to make up the area committee – a sort of steering committee for the assembly.

Additionally In Manhattan we hold bi-monthly Manhattan Area Service meetings for GSR's and DCM's

Each AA group sends its own ideas or problems to the assembly via reporting by their GSR where other groups can share their experience and provide help and support. From the assembly, each G.S.R. can take back to his or her group the shared experience of the rest of the assembly.



# *Districts*

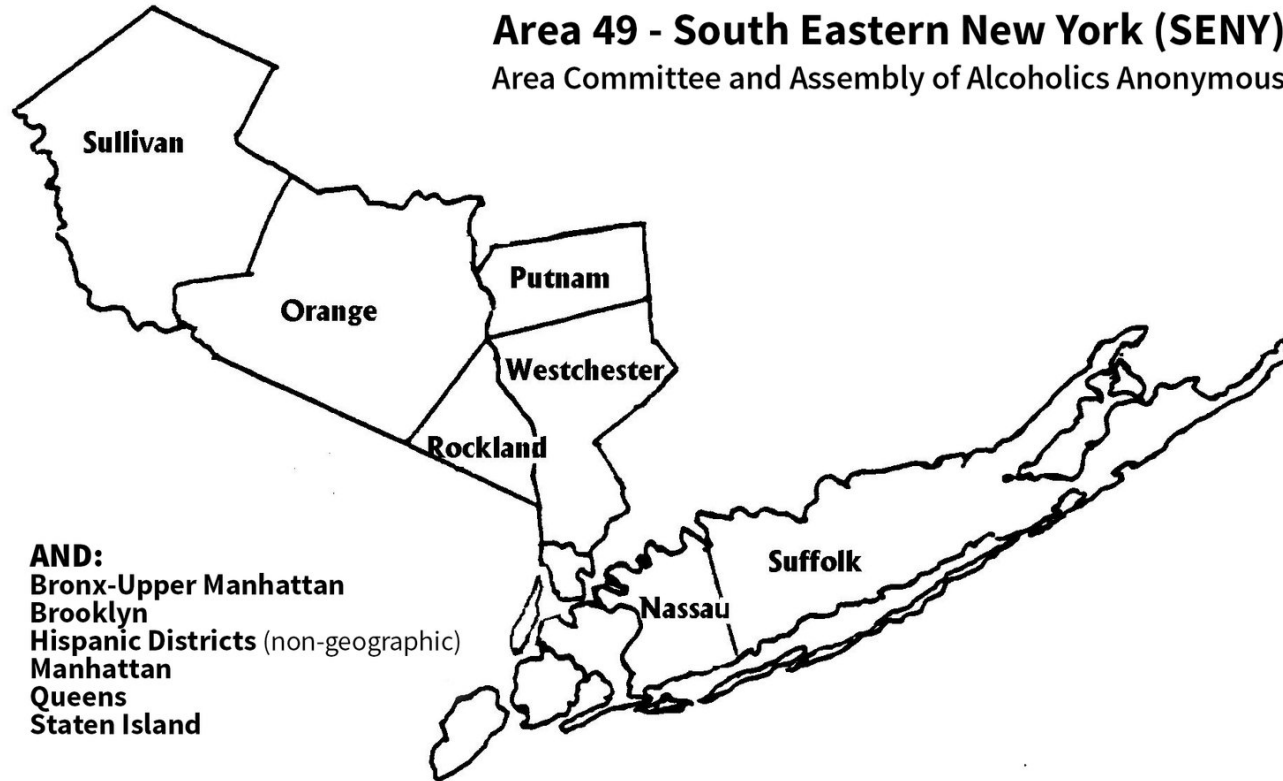
# *Manhattan*

# *Area*

# *& Assemblies*

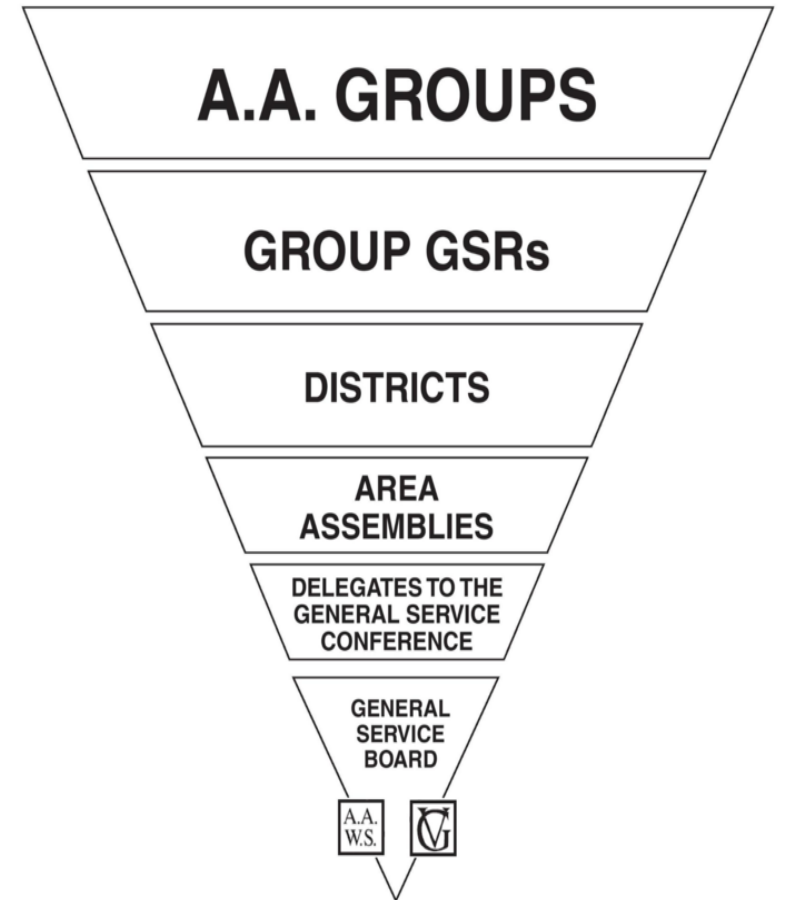
- At **district meetings**, you join with G.S.R.s from other groups. Perhaps you've already worked with an intergroup or central office, where groups band together to help alcoholics just in your locality. But your general service **district** is the second link in an entirely different chain, which extends much farther. Your district is one part of a general service **area**. With your fellow G.S.R.s, you elect a district committee member, and all the D.C.M.s make up the area committee. Now, do you just sit back and let your D.C.M. take it from there? No! G.S.R.s stay very much in action in each of the 93 areas in the U.S. and Canada.
- At **Manhattan Area General Service meetings**, annually held on alternating months beginning every January, GSR's and DCM's gather to discuss the business of the groups in Manhattan along with each districts service commitment..
- You attend **area assemblies** four times a year (in most areas). At the electoral assembly (held every two years), along with the other G.S.R.s and the D.C.M.s from the whole area, you elect committee officers – and your area's **Conference delegate**

**Area 49 - South Eastern New York (SENY)**  
Area Committee and Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous



**AND:**  
Bronx-Upper Manhattan  
Brooklyn  
Hispanic Districts (non-geographic)  
Manhattan  
Queens  
Staten Island

# *SENY-Area 49*



# *General Service Conference*

Just as you rely on your group for help in your personal recovery, so the A.A. groups of Canada and the U.S. rely on the **General Service Conference** in maintaining the unity and strength of our Fellowship – our obligation to all the alcoholics of today and tomorrow.

It's up to you to keep two-way communication going between your group and the Conference. Via your D.C.M. and your delegate, you can see to it that your group's conscience on matters of importance to all A.A. becomes a part of the consensus when these matters are discussed at the annual Conference meeting in April.

In return, you can enable your group to benefit from the meeting's sharing of experience among area delegates and the other Conference members. Your D.C.M. may want to present your delegate's report at a special group meeting. The D.C.M. receives a copy of the Conference *Final Report*, a full account of proceedings. Copies of the report are available to groups upon request.

# Group services

As G.S.R. you are “group contact” in the original sense, too.

Upon your election, your name and address are sent (by you or your group secretary) to the registrar of **manhattan area meeting**, or your **district** or **area 49 registrar** and to **G.S.O.**

(Be sure to include, as well, the name of the G.S.R. you are replacing, so the records won't be confused.)

You will be listed as contact for your group in the next printing of the appropriate **A.A. Directory**.

## Information Abounds...

you just have to seek it out

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

[www.manhattanaa.org](http://www.manhattanaa.org)

## THE SERVICE SPONSOR

The same impulse that drives some new people to try to “do A.A.” alone drives some new GSRs to try to “do general service” alone. There’s no reason to. In fact, there’s every reason not to.

As rewarding and enjoyable as general service can be, you might find yourself feeling overwhelmed at times. A service sponsor can make the difference between struggling in your service position and feeling a sense of purpose and accomplishment (and having some fun along the way!).

A service sponsor is there to answer your questions about your responsibilities, the structure of general service, the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts and how to apply them, and making reports to your group. They can share experiences on managing time and expectations. Simply put, the service sponsor is there to help.



## Websites & Literature suggestions

### *Pamphlets, Leaflets*

- “GSR General Service Representative...your group’s link to A.A. as a whole” • “The A.A. Group”
- “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix”
- ~~“A.A. Tradition — How It Developed”~~
- “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” • “Twelve Concepts Illustrated”

### *Books*

- *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* (second half on the Traditions)
- *Twelve Concepts of World Service* (second half of the Service Manual)
- *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*
- *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.’s General Service Conference Talks 1951-1970* • *The Language of the Heart: Bill W.’s Grapevine Writings*

