

76th General Service
Conference Agenda Items

2026 Conference Committee
on Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM B: Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2027 or after.

The Conference Committee is looking to add 2 Grapevine Books and one La Viña Book to the ongoing list of 20 Grapevine titles and 11 La Viña titles previously approved.

Senior Members (*working title*)

Stories by AA members who got to AA late in life, including members who are dealing with issues related to older age in sobriety.

Members Dealing with Mental Illness (*working title*)

Stories by AA members dealing with mental illness, sharing how they got sober, stay sober and work the program.

Despertares Esprituales (Spiritual Awakenings) (*LV book*) (*working title*)

Stories by Spanish-speaking AA members about faith, prayer and finding a Higher Power



Projected Costs for Each Publication

Projected unit cost (printing and design): \$4.50 per book, 10,000-unit print run

Price: \$14.99 Softcover: Approx. 120-200 pages

eBook estimated project cost: \$1,000

Price: \$11.99

No Delegate question associated with this PAI.

ITEM F: Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc. Accept Contributions.

This item came about due to AA Grapevine Board discussion and the Grapevine and La Viña Conference Committee's expressed interest in exploring various funding models for AA Grapevine, Inc.

Item F Doc 1 AA Grapevine, Inc. Contributions Report

Presents various considerations associated with whether AA Grapevine, Inc. might accept contributions from AA Members and Groups.

Current Financial Model

- Revenue sources: Subscriptions (print, online, app, gift) book sales and other product revenue
 - Direct contributions are not accepted / Financial Support from the General Service Board comes when Grapevine runs a deficit. [*\$300,000 deficit projected for fiscal year 2025*]

Factors Impacting Current Financial Model

- Increasing costs: paper, printing, mailing, shipping, and digital infrastructure
- Ongoing services that generate no direct revenue:
 - Correctional tablet content, podcasts, video, social media, ASL videos, complimentary/discounted materials

Considerations if Contributions were Permitted

- Align Grapevine's funding sources more closely with those that rely on voluntary members and group support.
- Add an additional revenue stream, reducing reliance on publishing & retail income.
- Improve bottom line.
- Additional way for members to support services having no income associated with them.
- Reduce distinctions between Grapevine and other A.A. entities regarding funding sources.
- New policies and procedures for accepting & tracking contributions must align with those used by AAWS.

Concerns and Potential Risks

- Departure from Longstanding Practice of reliance on sales-based support.
- Conference Policy/Precedent - A 1975 action urged members to help make the Grapevine magazine financially self-supporting through subscription sales.
- Contributions may be seen as complicating financial /organizational distinctions between Grapevine and other AA entities.
- Contributions to Grapevine could affect giving patterns of individuals, groups, etc. to the General Service Board .
- Clearly communicated that contributions support Grapevine and La Viña efforts *only* and contributions made to other AA entities do *not* support Grapevine.

Issues that may require definition

- Eligibility of contributors – AA members/AA entities only
- Contribution Limits
- Transparency and reporting requirements
- Measures to avoid unintended impact on other AA Services

ITEM F Doc 2 Memorandum to Conference Committee on Grapevine and LaViña from Publisher of AA Grapevine

- The way A.A. members access Grapevine (and LaViña) has changed significantly in recent years.
- Grapevine now provides a growing range of services that directly support A.A.'s primary purpose but do not generate revenue: Daily quotes, weekly podcasts, video and social media content, Grapevine recovery stories on correctional-facility tablets, and accessible videos for deaf members.
- These member services require ongoing financial investment to produce and maintain.

DELEGATE QUESTIONS:

Are you in favor of A.A. Grapevine, Inc accepting A.A. member contributions?

If yes, should the same limits (yearly and bequests) be in place as there are with the General Service Board?

Note: Per 2024 Advisory Action yearly Individual limits are \$7,500;
Per 2025 Advisory Action bequests to the GSB from AA members is \$12,500

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2026 Conference Committee
on Archives



Conference Committee on Archives EDW From Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions

ITEM B: Consider a request to define eligibility for area-level service for members residing outside of the geographic area they want to serve. (PAI 46)

Background:

1. PAI-46
2. The A.A. Service Manual (See sharing on the area delegate role.): <https://www.aa.org/aa-service-manualtwelve-concepts-world-services>

Item B Doc 1 – PAI Submission Form

This PAI was submitted by an individual in Area 13 whose motion states:

“That the Policy and Administration Committee of the GSC discuss issues of who can serve as an area trusted servant if they live outside the area they are serving. Does geography limit the ability to carry a group conscience? On the other side, please clarify where past delegates can stand for trustees if they have relocated.”

Problems addressed by the PAI

The submitter notes that the pandemic has shed light on questions concerning:

- When a past delegate has relocated.
- When someone in a Virtual group in one area is from another area and becomes an area or district trusted servant.
 - A related problem is wider representation of Hispanic groups with a linguistic area in each region, possibly with a national Hispanic trustee – the perception being whether this closes the pathway for Hispanic trusted servants to “earn a spot” as delegates or area officers.

In describing/supporting the reasoning for the PAI, some of the items noted were:

- In Area 13 a DCM living in another state, represented a portion of Area 13.
- Concept XI as it applies to:
 - Representation of a home group by an individual whose home group is in another area/district
 - Delegate selection and assurance of adequate consideration of views/issues represented by linguistic minorities.

The Submitter indicated the PAI was necessary to:

- To clarify future agenda items relating to possible regional linguistic and online areas and an online or linguistic trustee(s).
- To ensure all members can contribute to the fellowship's conscience without limiting participation in local linguistic communities or leadership.

Intended/Expected outcomes

In addressing what the intended/expected outcome if the PAI is approved, the Submitter indicated

“The purpose of the PAI is to engender a fellowship wide discussion of representation in AA, including its relationship to the concepts. *At this time, no advisory action would be required.*”

DELEGATE QUESTIONS:

Should members be able to serve an area if they live outside of the geographic area?

Should members be able to stand for trustee in an area they didn't serve as delegate?

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