

Area 53 Assembly, June 6th, 2021 Treatment Facilities Committee Report

As of 2021, the vast majority of A.A. meetings held in treatment settings in Area 53 are facilitated by individual A.A. members and groups. Experience has taught us that duplication of efforts and miscommunication have negatively impacted the reputation of A.A. among some treatment facilities in our Area. This committee aims to unify the Area in these efforts to increase cooperation with facilities, reduce miscommunication, and support members who facilitate treatment meetings.

Due to an abundance of need for carrying the A.A. message in treatment settings in Central and Southeast Ohio, the committee agreed in March 2021 that an Area 53 Treatment Committee handbook could serve as the backbone for implementing committee processes and bylaws, which would ultimately help support the goal of unifying efforts and increasing facility cooperation within Area 53 in order to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

For this reason, the TFC appointed an Ad-hoc committee to begin drafting a procedures manual in March 2021. The TFC met weekly on Wednesdays through April and on April 28th, 2021, the committee adopted a handbook titled “Area 53 Treatment Facilities Committee Policies & Procedures Manual” which now serves as committee bylaws. This manual was inspired by Treatment Facilities Committees in other Areas as well as the Treatment Workbook from GSO. The manual outlines and defines TFC goals and definitions, roles within the committee along with their respective responsibilities, guidelines for starting a treatment meeting, communication processes, and funding policies. The manual will be available soon on the Area 53 Website.

Key changes that came as the result of adopting the treatment manual:

- TFC now has a Secretary, Megan
- TFC now has a Treasurer, Sandra
- TFC now has a Materials Coordinator, Alison
- TFC has a Bridging The Gap Coordinator, Danny
- TFC has at least one Facility Coordinator, Jason
- The TFC will now serve all facilities that are NOT correctional facilities. This includes addiction treatment centers, hospitals, nursing homes, homeless shelters, and transitional housing
- TFC will accept direct monetary contributions, similarly as the Correctional Facilities Committee, for the purpose of purchasing AA literature and providing it for the alcoholic in a treatment setting. Literature is requested via meeting sponsors (a person who facilitates an AA Treatment Meeting). If a group would like a dedicated treatment can, the committee will provide one.
- Meeting Sponsors may request literature from the TFC and the TFC will fulfill these requests, provided the Treatment Meeting they facilitate is not open to the general public. Requests will be fulfilled to the extent that TFC budget will allow.
- TFC will soon have a PO Box

Commitments Fulfilled in 2021:

The committee has begun appointing Meeting Sponsors to Area facilities to facilitate meetings for their clients. Meeting Sponsors have been provided for:

- 4 days of the week at Parkside
- 1 day of the week at Ohio Addiction Recovery Center
- 1 day of the week at Minerva Park Behavioral Health
- 1 day of the week at Maryhaven Detox

Openings:

- Tuesdays at 7 pm. Parkside in Gahanna, Women's Meeting.
- Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. Hope Valley Recovery Center in Circleville. Co-ed.

If you are interested in one of these commitments, please reach out to treatment@area53aa.org or Sam at 954-609-8149.

Other updates:

1. If you currently facilitate a meeting in a treatment facility, we strongly encourage you to get involved with the Treatment Committee. This will help us ensure that that facility is having their needs met and will also enable us to support you with literature or other needs.
2. The committee is requesting GSRs to communicate to their homegroups that the committee is in need of service, and there is an available position for their group: Group Treatment Representative (GTR). The GTR acts as a link between your group and the Treatment Facilities Committee and is the means whereby our Committee operates fully in accordance with the Second and Ninth traditions of A.A., ensuring that our authority ultimately comes from God as expressed through the collective conscience of Area 53.
3. The committee is currently processing requests for 25 Big Books along with pamphlets. With purchasing a PO Box and current literature requests, we expect to exhaust our allocated budget within the next 1-2 months.
4. The committee is especially in need of representatives outside of Franklin County. Due to the size of the Area, an available position is "Regional Coordinator". Regional Coordinators are in need, especially for Southeast Ohio.
5. The TFC will be having a presentation sponsored by District 28. This will likely be June 26th. Information for this will be available on the Area 53 Website. The presentation will be about what the committee does and how to get involved.
6. The TFC meets the third Saturday of every month at Noon. We currently meet on Zoom. The ID and Password can be found on the TFC page on the Area 53 website.

In Service,

Sam K.
Chair, Treatment Facilities Committee
Area 53, Panel 71