

Area 53 Assembly, September 12, 2021
Treatment Facilities Committee Report

The Treatment Facilities Committee has continued to meet monthly on the third Saturday of the month via Zoom. In September, we hope to have our first in-person committee meeting at COGF. Zoom option will still be available for those who would like to join remotely.

We have continued to have an average of 7-8 attendees of the committee meetings. The committee currently has 6 officer positions filled but is still looking for members to get involved. Due to the size of Area 53, there is plenty of service opportunities for those interested. **The committee would like to emphasize the importance of a Group Treatment Representative**, which is an AA group's link to the activities of the standing committee. If your homegroup is looking for service positions to fill, we encourage you to send representatives to join our committee. Since the last Assembly, we have had at least 2 groups elect a Group Treatment Rep.

During the last quarter, the Treatment Committee held a hybrid workshop sponsored by District 28. This workshop explained the function of the treatment committee, service opportunities, best practices for starting a treatment meeting, Bridging The Gap, and how to get involved with the committee. We also presented our Area 53 treatment handbook which was developed in Q1 of 2021. The workshop was a fantastic event with good turnout. We encourage other districts to hold similar events in conjunction with the committee! We would be delighted to hold more such events to help raise awareness of our committee.

Meetings & Bridging The Gap:

Since the last assembly, the committee successfully placed 2 more meetings at Ohio Addiction Recovery Center (one male, one female). This brings our total to 9 commitments facilitated since Q1. We have also received over a dozen volunteers through our volunteer sign-up sheet. Volunteer sign-up sheets can be acquired from the committee to be passed around at home groups. When a request for a meeting comes to the committee, these volunteers are contacted to see if they can take the commitment.

The committee also started rolling out the Bridging the Gap temporary contact program. Meeting sponsors (the AA member facilitating the meeting in a facility) has cards they give to the clients at their meetings. The client can then include their discharge date and phone number, which is directed to the Bridging The Gap Coordinator. They are then matched with a Bridging The Gap volunteer. Newcomers and volunteers are matched based on zip code and gender. Through our Bridging The Gap sign-up sheets, we have had over 30 volunteers. Bridging The Gap sign-up sheets can also be acquired from the committee, or from Danny, The Bridging The Gap Coordinator. More information about Bridging The Gap can be found on the treatment page of area53aa.org.

Funds:

The committee announced last assembly that we would begin taking direct contributions from groups for the purpose of purchasing literature for the alcoholic in a treatment setting that does not have access to AA literature. Since then, we have gained \$50 in contributions. Due to the abundance of need, the committee spent \$300 on literature and other materials to be reimbursed out of our \$500 budget from Area 53. This literature was distributed to alcoholics in treatment settings.

We are still in the process of acquiring a P.O. box, which will likely max out our budget for the year. The literature bought in Q2 has already been exhausted, so we are asking groups to consider contributing to the committee with funds that exceed prudent reserve or by means of a "Treatment Can." The committee does have some funds earmarked for the purpose of purchasing cans for groups that would like a can. All funds directly contributed to the committee are strictly used for AA literature. More information about the use of funds can be found in the Treatment Committee Policies & Procedures Handbook.

Last Words

The committee is still greatly in need of members from outside of Franklin County. Because it is a large area, our services tend to favor the proximity of committee members. To help serve all of Area 53, we are asking GSRs from groups outside of Franklin County to communicate this to their groups. As mentioned, the committee would be happy to hold workshops or speak at district meetings to help raise awareness.

Thank you!

In Service,

Sam Knight
Chair, Treatment Facilities Committee
Area 53, Panel 71