

## Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities

New York Hilton Midtown

April 27, 2026, 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

April 28, 2026, 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities met separately two times following the Joint Meeting with the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee on April 26, 2026. The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and considered the following agenda items:

### Committee Considerations:

The committee reviewed and accepted the progress report on the Military/Veteran Interview Project and noted the completion of the project, expressing gratitude for the work that went into the project from the appointed committee members (ACMs) and the General Service Office (GSO). The committee discussed ways to continue to expand outreach to both active duty and veteran members of the armed services and made the following suggestions:

- Ø To create a service piece that links to the audio page and can be shared with the Fellowship across the service structure, and presented to professionals
- Ø That any improvements made to the aa.org website include increased visibility of the Military/Veteran Interview Project, including but not limited to banners, a scroll and other ways to bring attention to the project
- Ø Arranging the recordings on the web page in a manner that identifies and groups by branch of the military and the nation of service, and highlights the original language
- Ø Continue to explore developing short-form content to post on the AAWS YouTube page as another tool for the Fellowship to highlight this content.
- Ø Include postings about the Military/Veteran Interview Project on the AAWS LinkedIn page and highlight the project in articles in future editions of the *About A.A.* newsletter for professionals and other outward-facing materials.
- Ø To review and refine the use of hashtags to increase visibility

The committee requested that the General Service Office move forward with communicating the completion of the Military/Veteran Interview Project to the Fellowship using the widest available distribution channels.

- The committee reviewed a request to review locally produced safety-related video service material and provide input on the potential for this video service material to be adapted for use by GSO and took no action. In addition to intellectual property (IP) concerns, the committee discussed that for broad use throughout the US and Canada a video with a format and content more closely aligned with current service material would be more effective. The committee expressed gratitude to the local service district for its work in producing the original videos, as it inspired a vital Fellowship-wide discussion on this important topic. However, the committee determined that the videos needed more than minor editorial adjustments and would require more substantive changes.

Rather than spending resources to adapt these videos, it was the conscience of the committee to request that AAWS create a new video based on existing content found in our safety service materials, and, as budget permits. The committee requests that AAWS consider all available cost-saving technologies, including AI, for content production and language services,

The committee discussed additional ways to effectively produce this content and offered the following suggestions:

- Ø That the video be medium in length, up to four to seven minutes, while still effectively conveying the message, and animation is considered as a format
- Ø That the video includes links to our safety materials
- Ø That the project remains open for future videos to be created
- Ø That the video format is mindful of visual content versus text, as well as easily translatable
- Ø That the video is mindful of accessibility for all alcoholics
- Ø That the video be completed and made available at the earliest opportunity, with consideration to available funds

As a result of the 2021-2022 Equitable Distribution of Workload plan, the above item was on the agenda of the Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

- The committee reviewed the Treatment Kit and Workbook and forwarded to the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee a list of minor edits to the

workbook to be implemented at the next printing.

- The committee reviewed the Accessibility Kit and Workbook and forwarded to the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee a list of minor edits to the workbook to be implemented at the next printing and provided the secretary with additional suggestions for contents of the kit to be forwarded to the Publishing Department to align the contents with best practices of AAWS.
- The committee reviewed the "A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility" (Item MG-16). The committee provided the following suggestions to be forwarded to the trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee:
  - Ø Use consistent language across related service materials, including the Accessibilities Checklist for groups and meetings.
  - Ø Include English as a language when applicable.
  - Ø Include resources that may be specific to Canada in addition to those that are used in the United States.
  - Ø Include guidance for making A.A. accessible to Deaf and hard-of-hearing alcoholics that aligns with current best practices.
  - Ø Additional minor edits were provided and are to be completed by the Staff secretary.

The committee elected Adrian Ontiveros, Area 8, San Diego and Imperial California, chairperson; and Merri Beth Hallock, Area 77, Puerto Rico, alternate chairperson.

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