Links of Service
Group Representative Workshop

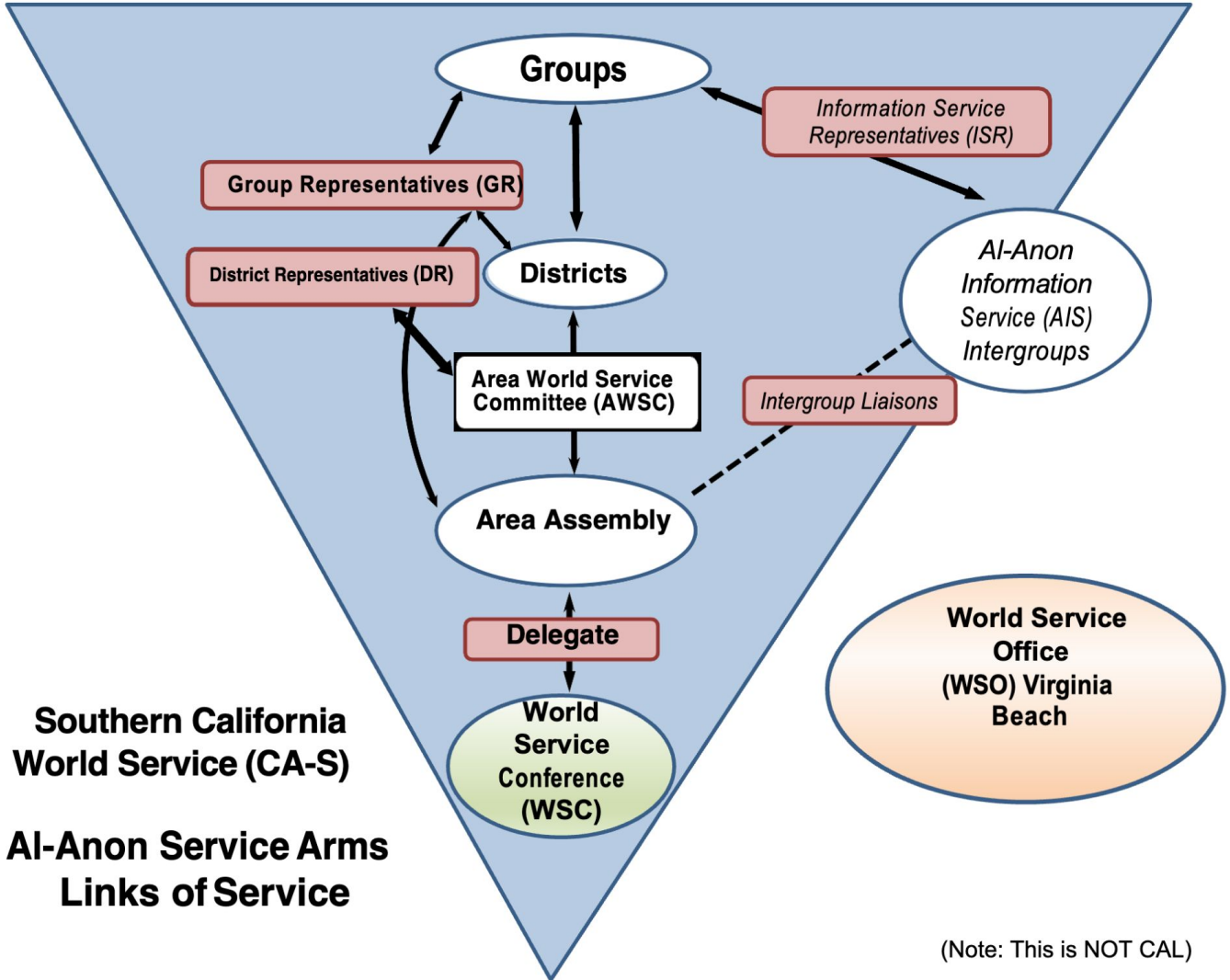
Southern California World Service

November 2025

The Importance of a Group Representative

"The Group Representative (GR) is a vital link in the continuing function, growth, and unity of worldwide Al-Anon. GRs are members with experience, stability, and a general understanding of the Traditions and how they are applied. The GR becomes familiar with the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) and encourages its use in Al-Anon meetings. The GR is the first link in the chain that leads to the World Service Conference and is the voice of the group at the Area level. The GR votes on matters affecting the Al-Anon group and potentially Al-Anon as a whole." – G11 Guideline

"*A group that fails to have a Group Representative denies its members a voice and causes a break in the link of communications.*" 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, page 68-69.


Groups
Information Service Representatives (ISR)
Group Representatives (GR)
District Representatives (DR)
Districts
Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Intergroups
Area World Service Committee (AWSC)
Intergroup Liaisons
Area Assembly
Delegate
World Service Conference (WSC)
World Service Office (WSO) Virginia Beach
Southern California World Service (CA-S)
Al-Anon Service Arms Links of Service
(Note: This is NOT CAL)

Definitions*

Area: Areas are comprised of groups and Districts in a determined location that can be geographically or nongeographically defined.

Area World Service Committee (AWSC): In between Assemblies, Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings are held, attended by the Assembly officers, all District Representatives, Al-Anon Information Service Liaisons, *(recognized Convention Chairs)*, and the Area Coordinators of special services. At these meetings, the Assembly agenda is planned, information and reports are conveyed, and decisions may be made that cannot wait until the next Assembly.

Assembly: Is composed of all the GRs in the Area and convenes at least every three years to elect a Delegate and other Assembly officers. During an Assembly, the Delegate reports the activities of the World Service Conference. The Area Assembly is the business meeting where the groups send their representatives to express a voice and vote on behalf of the group.

District: The District is the first link from the groups to the Area, the World Service Office (WSO), and the World Service Conference (WSC). Districts are comprised of groups within a geographical or non-geographical part of an Area that meet as needed. The GRs from the groups in the District attend the District meetings to represent their group.

District Representative (DR): Is elected by the GRs from within their District. The DR chairs the District meetings, represents the groups in their District at Area World Service Committee meetings, and serves as a resource and information source for the groups.

Group: A small group needs a CMA (Current Mailing Address), Group Representative (GR), Chairperson, and a Secretary; the latter often acts as Treasurer until the group is large enough to elect one.

Group Representative (GR): Acts as liaison between the group and the District, and between the group and the Area Assembly. Every group (with a registered GR) in the Area has a voice and a vote in Area business through their Group Representative (GR).

World Service Conference (WSC): The WSC is the permanent body for the expression of the conscience of the Al-Anon/Alateen fellowship in the light of our Traditions. Its membership is composed of the elected World Service Delegates from each Assembly Area in the World Service Conference Structure, the Trustees of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., the Chairpersons and WSO Staff of all selected committees, and the members of the Executive Committee. Representatives from countries other than the United States and Canada may participate but not vote.

World Service Office (WSO): The WSO is composed of executives, Staff members, and selected committees supervised by the legally empowered Board of Trustees and its Executive Committee. It functions as a clearinghouse, providing service to the fellowship and spreading Al-Anon's message worldwide.

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Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Intergroup: *An Al-Anon Information Service Intergroup is a local service established and maintained by one or more Districts or by groups. It exists to aid the groups it serves in the common purpose of carrying the Al-Anon message to the families and friends of alcoholics.*

Information Service Representative (ISR): *Acts as a liaison between the group and the Al-Anon Information Service (AIS)Intergroup. Reports AIS/Intergroup activities to the group.*

Intergroup Liaison*: An AIS Liaison member links the AIS/Intergroup to the Area.*

**These definitions can be found in the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual; selections and groupings have been chosen for brevity. Refer to the Service Manual for more information.*
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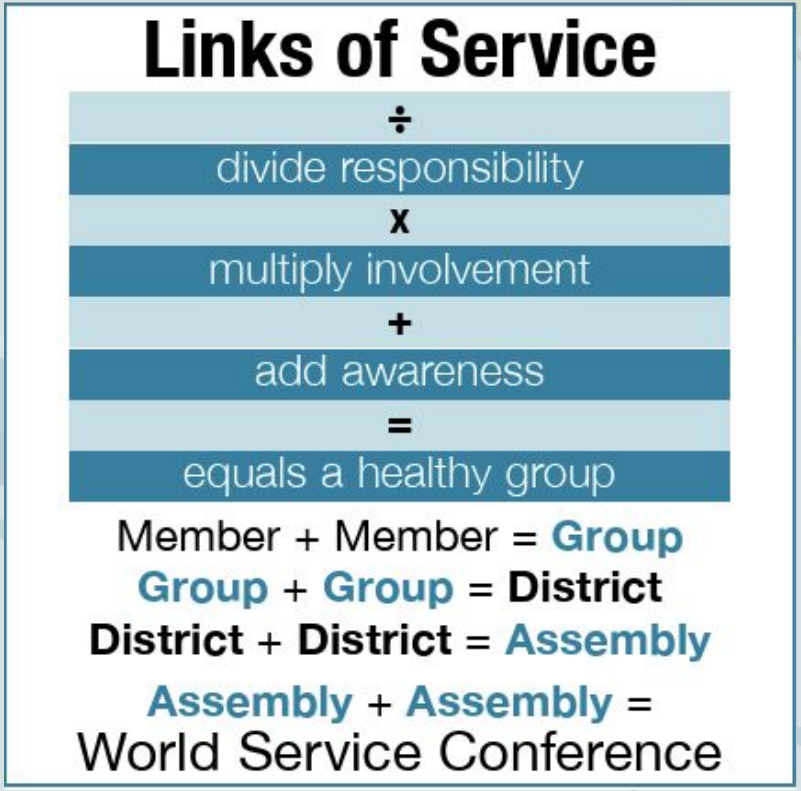
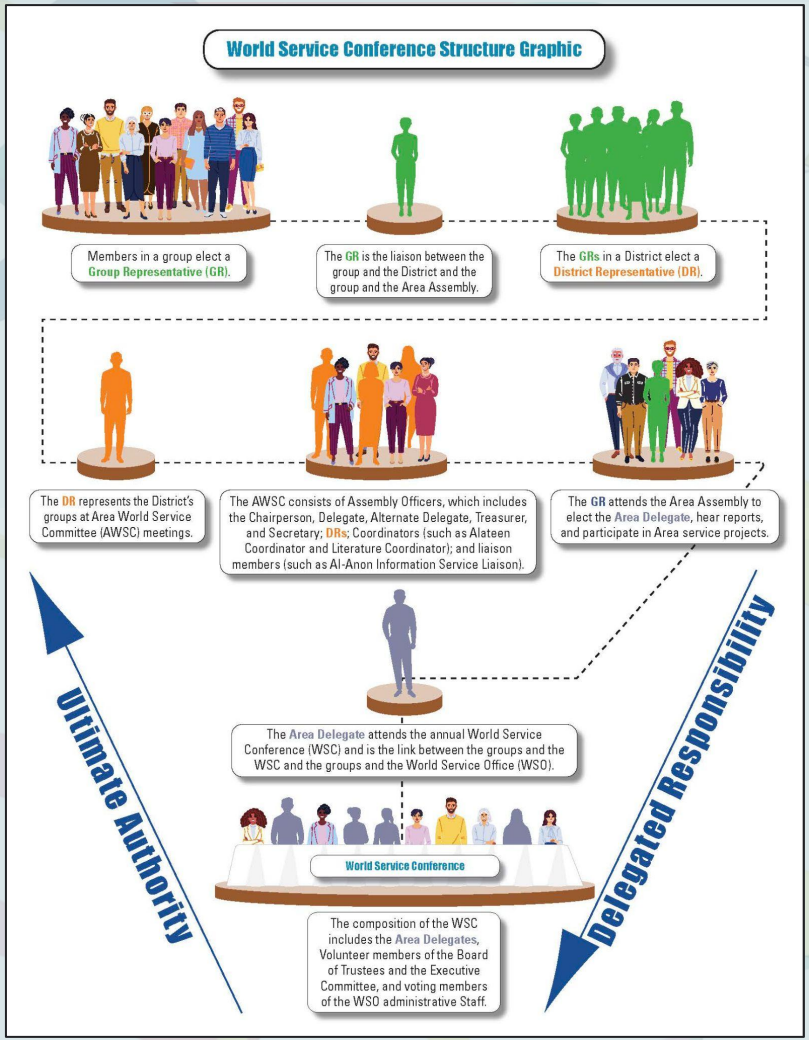
Using the Links of Service Equals A Healthy Group



From Guideline G-11
Group Representatives

findable here:
https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/guidelines/



World Service Conference Structure Download

https://al-anon.org/for-members/world-service-conference-wsc/

The World Service Conference makes the group conscience available and effective for all Al-Anon. It is the practical means by which the group conscience can speak; it is the voice of world Al-Anon and the guarantee that our world services shall continue to carry on under all conditions.

The Conference protects Al-Anon and Alateen against a service breakdown; it makes for unity and enables our fellowship to act as a whole upon important matters. This makes it the principal guarantor of Al-Anon and Alateen's harmony and survival.

–2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, page 164