# Why Does Southern California World Service (SCWS) Area Contribute to the World Service Office (WSO)?

**Prepared October 2025: Presented by the Delegate for the November Assembly**

# We Think Abundantly

**Warranty One**: "That only sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle." page 215

"Thinking abundantly allows us to accomplish our primary purpose of reaching out to families and friends of alcoholics." page 103

"Al-Anon/Alateen service entities may also contribute in a spirit of unity directly to the WSO without limit." page 105

# Group Budgeting

Groups use funds to pay for rent and/or platform fees, Conference Approved Literature (CAL) for sale to members, expenses for the Group Representative (GR) to attend District meetings and Assemblies, Information Service Representative (ISR) to attend AIS Intergroup meetings, and outreach projects. They may offer babysitting, and/or refreshments, per group autonomy, along with a small reserve of a couple of months. See the *Reserve Fund guideline (G-41)* https://al-anon.org/pdf/G41.pdf

"Group funds are used to support Al-Anon's purpose of carrying its message of help and hope to those who still suffer. Group contributions support all levels of Al-Anon service including

- The District
- Local Al-Anon Information Service (AIS/Intergroups)
- The Area (Southern California World Service)
- The World Service Office (WSO)"

(2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, p. 53)

# WSO Budget

**Provides services worldwide**

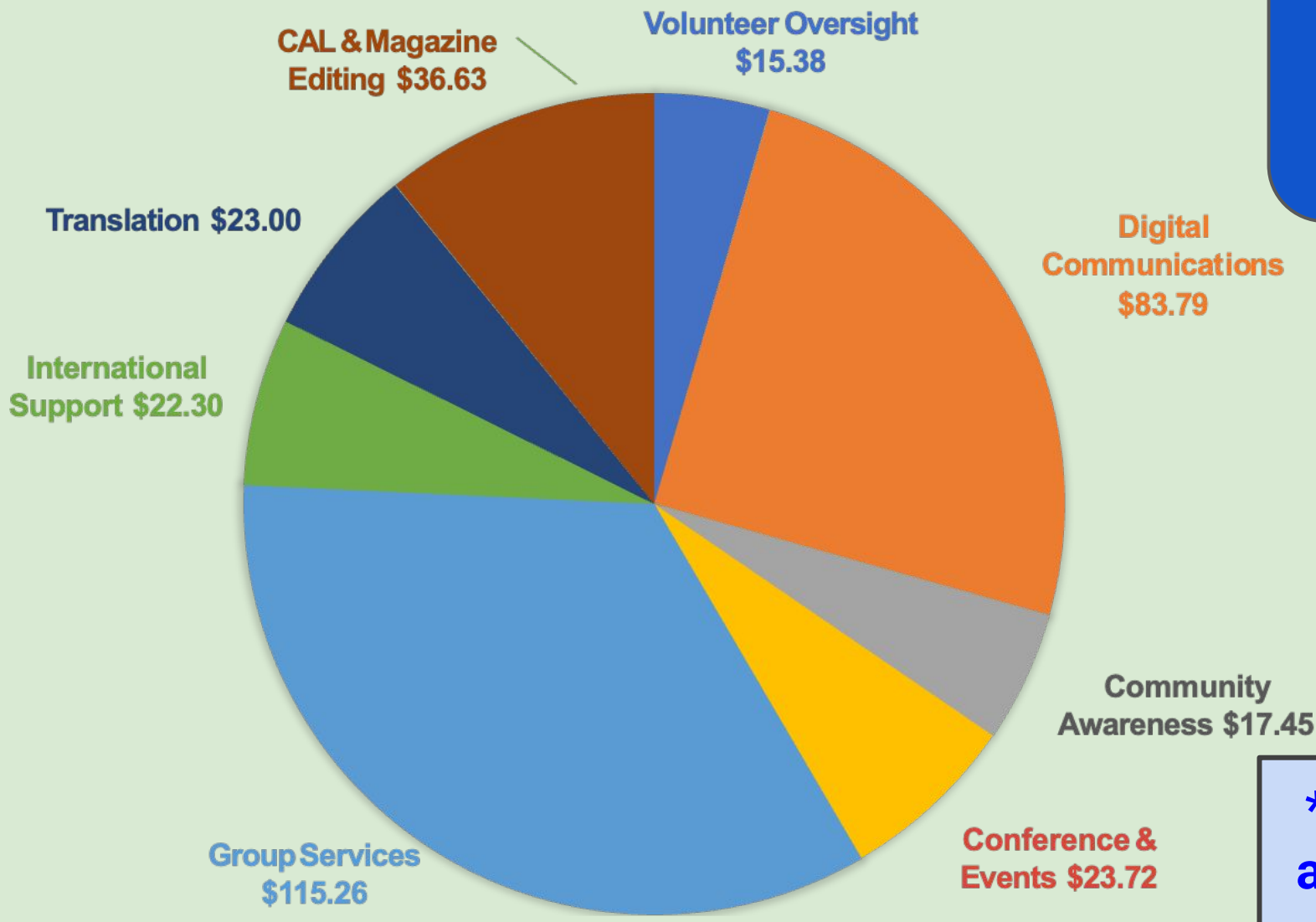
• Click Link to See the Back of Appeal Letter •

**Main sources of income: contributions and literature sales**

**Special projects—*can only be funded* if resources are available**

**Has 3 Funds: General, Reserve and Building**

**Cost Per Group $337.53***




**<u>100%</u> of registered groups (Al-Anon and Alateen) use WSO Services**

**<u>ONLY 62%</u> of all groups contributed in 2024**

## Services Used

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Getting your group registered | Reading from our CAL at meetings | Calling WSO to find a meeting |
| | Using the *Mobile App* for a Zoom meeting | PSAs playing on TV stations |

***CA-S (SCWS Area) Contributed an Average of $204.94 per group**

# SCWS Budget

Provides services* to our SCWS Area

Source of income: contributions

Special projects: are funded

Has 2 Funds: General and Reserve

# SCWS Area Service Budget

- Area Group and Officers/Directors Insurance
- Technology expenses (hardware/software equipment, website, Zoom platform fees)
- Delegate's Full Expense for World Service Conference (WSC)
- Officer/Coordinator expenses (public outreach supplies, office supplies, lodging, mileage)
- Meeting space rental for in person Assemblies, Area World Service Committee meetings
- Reimbursement expenses for District/Group Reps to attend in-person AWSC meetings and Assemblies
- Alateen (training Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service/AMIAS), certification/recertification/background checks
- Storage facility rental
- Special event in-person expenses (Longtimer Event, Workshops, Sharing of Service (SOS)
- Language Translator for Assemblies and special events

# How Surplus Funds Work

- SCWS of AFG, Inc. is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation and a charitable 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity per the Internal Revenue Service.

- It is required that nonprofits to use funds in accordance with the goals of SCWS, to help families and friends of alcoholics.

- While there is no limit to how much money a nonprofit can have in reserve, our ample reserve is equal to one year's budget (currently $73,000).
  (*Reserve Fund Guideline*, G-41).

- Nonprofit organizations do not accumulate funds excessively without a clear plan for how they will be used to support the Area's goal of helping families and friends of alcoholics.

# Why Does the Area Have Surplus Funds?

- Our Area's Al-Anon Family Group (AFG) meetings contribute generously to our Area.

- We have more than 1,000 groups and are one of the largest Areas in the World Service Conference.

- Our current expenses have been lower than our income.

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