

**Alcoholics Anonymous  
District 19  
Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: I've never heard of service and districts in A.A. What is it?**

**A:** As a result of doing a District inventory, we found that many groups in our District had that same question. Very briefly, District 19 is part of Alcoholics Anonymous and provides a communication link between the A.A. groups in our geographical area and A.A. as a whole.

**Q: We get everything we need from our local Intergroup office. Why do we need District 19?**

**A:** Traditionally, general service committees (such as District 19) and Intergroup Offices have performed different functions. Intergroup Offices provide local services; general service committees maintain the communication link between the A.A. groups and the A.A. General Service Board by means of the Conference. So these two separate but vital service structures co-exist in many areas in mutual cooperation and harmony.

The **Intergroups/Central Offices** provide such services as:

1. Receiving, arranging, and following up Twelfth Step calls
2. Answering inquires about A.A.
3. Establishing local public information committees
4. Publishing local A.A. meeting lists
5. Providing a newsletter
6. Ordering, selling, and distributing A.A. Conference-approved literature

In contrast, the Conference structure is the method through which all A.A. groups in an area can provide the most effective communications within the area and between the groups and the General Service Board and G.S.O. on matters of policy that affect A.A. as a whole. These include policy on: Conference-approved literature, A.A. public information, A.A. Cooperation, A.A. activity in treatment and corrections facilities, A.A. finances, the A.A. Grapevine, and the election of trustees to the General Service Board. **(Taken from Minneapolis Intergroup pamphlet To Our Friends in General Service: Are Intergroups and Central Offices a part of Alcoholics Anonymous?)**

Also, the District meeting is a great place to meet GSRs from other groups in the District. Your group can get answers to questions and possible solutions to problems from other groups who've had similar experiences as well as, share your experience to assist other groups help the still suffering alcoholic.

**Q: Isn't that District stuff just A.A. getting into outside issues and politics? We just want to keep it simple and help alcoholics.**

**A:** District 19 has the same purpose of helping alcoholics as your A.A. group. District 19 can help your group find even **more** opportunities to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. We also invite you to attend one of the District 19 meetings, Area Assemblies, or Area Committee meetings to experience general service first hand.