

Committee that the A.A. exhibits be available for display at meetings of appropriate national professional groups without restriction as to the geographic areas they represent be approved.

The following 1961 Conference Advisory Action be reaffirmed:

- a. That, ever mindful of A.A.'s traditional policy of "Cooperation, YES—Affiliation, NO" the Public Information Committee, when requested to do so, continue to meet with organizations outside of A.A. concerned with the problem of alcoholism for the purpose of improving communications and understanding and discussing mutual problems.
- a. The delegates be encouraged to establish and maintain communications with the directors of state-supported alcoholism agencies within their respective areas.

1963 It was recommended that:

The following questions and answers on Retreats be approved for addition to "Cooperation But Not Affiliation."

Q. What is the relationship of A.A. to retreats or other meetings for alcoholics held under the auspices, or in connection with the activities, of religious denominations?

A. There is no formal relationship. Movement-wide experience might be summarized as follows:

1. Traditionally, A.A. does not sponsor such gatherings. There is no such thing as an "A.A. retreat" any more than there is an "A.A. hospital" or an "A.A. clinic." Members participate in such activities as individuals.
2. Since the Fellowship does not affiliate with other organizations, the A.A. name cannot properly be used to identify or publicize retreats or activities sponsored by others. This applies even when most of the participants (perhaps all of them) consider themselves members of A.A. The objective is to minimize public misunderstanding of A.A.'s purpose and functions.
3. If reference to the participation of A.A. members seems unavoidable in advance notices or in reports, such reference should also emphasize that A.A., as a movement, does not sponsor retreats or religious activities and members attend as *individuals*.

The following actions be reaffirmed:

- a. That a member of P.I.C. represent the Board of Trustees at the annual meeting of the North American Association of Alcoholism Programs.
- b. That ever mindful of A.A.'s traditional policy of "Cooperation But Not Affiliation" the Public Information Committee, when requested to do so, continue to meet with organizations outside of A.A. concerned with the problem of alcoholism for the purpose of improving communications and understanding and discussing mutual problems.
- c. That the Delegates be encouraged to establish and maintain communications with Directors of state-supported alcoholism agencies in their respective Areas. Addresses are available from G.S.O.

1964 It was recommended that:

The statement prepared by the Public Information Committee defining A.A.'s position in the field of alcoholism be accepted by the Conference.

G.S.O. put into effect, in cases involving possible misunderstanding of A.A.'s relationship to retreats, a procedure similar to that followed in cases of anonymity breaks.

(Persons believed to be responsible for creating an erroneous impression that A.A. as a Society sponsors retreats should be advised that this is not the case and their attention should be directed to the section, "Questions and Answers on Retreats" in the brochure entitled "Cooperation but not Affiliation.")

Copies of such communications should be sent to the area delegates involved.

G.S.O. correspondence concerning outside organizations and Traditions be shared with the area delegate.

Delegates be encouraged to establish and maintain communications with directors of state-supported alcoholism agencies in their Areas.

1965 It was recommended that:

Delegates establish lines of communication with directors of tax-supported and voluntary alcoholism programs in their areas.

The Conference reaffirm the comment on question 16 in the pamphlet "Cooperation But Not Affiliation" and request publication of the following in the A.A. Grapevine:

Experience shows that A.A. groups and intergroups or central committees should not operate or manage these ventures. Individual A.A.s frequently set up such related facilities, being careful not to use the A.A. name on solicitation, advertising and publicity. These ventures are usually set up on a nonprofit basis, incorporated under the charitable and educational laws of the state and excluding "Alcoholics Anonymous" from their names.

Hospitals and rest homes and other community rehabilitation aids bear the same relationship to A.A. groups, intergroups or central committees as do any other outside agencies. With full cooperation of the groups in the community they are used for referral, provided A.A.'s tradition of nonendorsement and nonaffiliation is made clear.

Since these ventures are separate from the Fellowship, it is advisable that they operate under names which do not link them to A.A.—under names other than "Twelve Step House," "Alanon House," etc.

In accordance with past procedure, the "World Directory" should not be made available to other organizations because of its confidential nature.

The title of the Conference "Committee on Relations with Outside Organizations" be changed to the Conference "Committee on Relations with Other Agencies."

1966 It was recommended that:

The "Committee on Relations with Other Agencies" change its name to the "Conference Committee on Public Information."

The new pamphlet "Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community" produced to replace "Helpful Ally" be approved.

All Delegates be urged to establish good lines of communication with tax-supported and voluntary alcoholism programs in their areas.

Delegates screen requests for the World Directory from outside A.A.

Reaffirmation that the color-sound film, "Bill's Own Story," is for use by A.A. Groups only, not for outside agencies.

When problems of A.A. relationships with other agencies arise in one area, all members of the new Conference P.I. Committee be informed.

1967 It was recommended that:

Delegates continue to establish lines of communication with tax-supported and voluntary alcoholism programs in their areas.