



October 2023

We ask the Group Representative to please read this letter to the group three weeks in a row.

Dear Members,

AGSO's current financial situation is quite concerning. Fellowship donations to the end of July 2023 were \$25,000 below budget. Of particular concern is the significant drop in individual donations to AGSO which are less than half of the budget target. Meanwhile, expenses are \$16,800 above budget, including Workcover, which has increased over 100%. This is before we pay for the printing of our literature including the new book B-34 *A Little Time for Myself*.

We know that many of our members have found this year difficult. We have all experienced increased costs recently. Even a cup of coffee costs \$6 in many places these days. This would help partially explain why individual donations have decreased but not why they have dropped so significantly this year. We know that Covid changed our landscape, and the way people donate, but we had hoped that individual donations would have returned to previous levels by now.

Please consider your personal donation to AGSO to support the services that we provide for the fellowship. See the back of this letter for information on these services to members and groups.

We offer a variety of donation options, check them out below.

Here is how to send your donation:

- Transfer funds direct from your bank to BSB 063 158, Account number 1003 5455 (Remember to email your details to accounts@al-anon.org.au so we can provide a receipt if you want one)
- PayID app on your phone: make a payment from your credit card using AGSO's ABN No.: 20005700112

Use the *GiveNow* website <https://www.givenow.com.au/alanonaustraliageneral> Your receipt will be issued immediately. Or simply scan the QR code below.

- Send a cheque to AGSO, GPO Box 1002, Melbourne, VIC, 3001. (Please make cheque payable to Al-Anon Family Groups Australia.)



All donations \$2.00 and over are tax deductible.

In loving Al-Anon service,

Lyn W.
Treasurer

How AGSO Serves Your Groups and You

Business Services

- ▲ Pays the bills of Al-Anon Family Groups (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
- ▲ Receives and processes contributions
- ▲ Processes literature orders for the Areas
- ▲ Receives and processes *Austra-Link* subscriptions
- ▲ Purchases and stocks Al-Anon literature from the World Service Office (WSO)
- ▲ Prints many items of Al-Anon literature in Australia with permission from WSO
- ▲ Designs and maintains the Al-Anon Family Groups website for Australia: www.al-anon.org.au
- ▲ Designs, produces and distributes our national magazine *Austra-Link*
- ▲ Arranges public liability insurance cover nationally

Administrative Services

- ▲ Maintains copyrights and trademarks in Australia
- ▲ Coordinates staff and Board participation at Australian Service Conference, AA Conventions with Al-Anon and Alateen participation, and other events such as TEAM events
- ▲ Maintains the archives
- ▲ Handles daily correspondence from the fellowship

Group Services

- ▲ Keeps Group Records Information current
- ▲ Registers all Al-Anon and Alateen Groups
- ▲ Supports registration of all Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS)
- ▲ Answers questions about group issues
- ▲ Oversees adherence to Area Alateen Safety and Behavioural Requirements

Public Information

- ▲ Prepares and distributes *Families Facing Alcoholism* magazine
- ▲ Prepares and distributes radio and TV Community Service Announcements (CSAs)
- ▲ Prepares and distributes press releases
- ▲ Supports and encourages Areas in Public Information efforts e.g. *Spread the Word* newsletter
- ▲ Performs outreach to professionals
- ▲ Collaborates with researchers
- ▲ Manages our official presence on social media platforms

Literature

- ▲ Prepares and produces the *Australian Service Handbook*
- ▲ Produces and distributes the newsletter, *Into Action*, to Area Literature Coordinators
- ▲ Distributes Conference Approved Literature to Area offices
- ▲ Responds to members' questions about Conference Approved Literature
- ▲ Adapts Al-Anon Guidelines from WSO for use in Australia

Conferences

- ▲ Coordinates the annual Australian Service Conference
- ▲ Provides leadership and support to Australian Service Delegates
- ▲ Responds to all communications regarding Delegate and Conference concerns
- ▲ Develops service tools to educate members on the structure of Al-Anon Family Groups in Australia
- ▲ Prepares the *Australian Service Conference Summary*
- ▲ Sends Delegates to the International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) every two years