

NH Al-Anon/Alateen Area Spiritual Agreement between the Assembly and the Board

Adopted and Affirmed May 18, 2019

Introduction

The NH Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly Spiritual Agreement between the Assembly and the Board is a body of principles and relationships through which Al-Anon/Alateen as a whole can function in New Hampshire. The provisions of the document are not legal, but traditional, since the NH Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly (Assembly) is not incorporated. This Spiritual Agreement between the Assembly and the Board is an informal agreement among all NH Al-Anon and NH Alateen groups.

Spiritual Agreement between the Assembly and the Board

1. Purpose
 - a. To be the guardian of the Twelve (12) Traditions of Al-Anon and the Twelve (12) Traditions of Alateen;
 - b. To be a service body, not a governing body and have no authority over individual members or groups in New Hampshire.
2. Composition
 - a. Group Representatives (GRs) (or elected Alternate GRs), District Representatives (DRs) (or elected Alternate DRs), Coordinators, Officers and the Delegate. Group Representatives vote.
 - b. Individual members are encouraged to attend and have voice.
3. Relation to Al-Anon in NH Area 35
 - a. The Assembly acts for Al-Anon groups in NH in the perpetuation and guidance of NH Area 35 services.
 - b. The Assembly is a vehicle by which Al-Anon groups in NH can express their views on policy and note deviations from Traditions.
 - c. GRs are free to vote as their conscience dictates and not necessarily as instructed by their groups.
 - d. Wording in this Spiritual Agreement may be changed by the vote of a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Group Representatives or elected alternates as per the ***NH Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly Statement of Policies and Procedures***
4. Relation to the Corporation
 - a. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the New Hampshire Area 35 (NH Area 35) Assembly giving traditional approval is binding upon directors and any related corporate service;
 - b. The above does not affect legal obligations of the Corporation in conducting business;
 - c. In accordance with the provisions of the ***By-Laws of Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups – New Hampshire, Inc.***, three-fourths (3/4) of all votes cast in a vote by all eligible voting members registered at the NH Area 35 Assembly (excluding the persons then serving as Directors of the Corporation) may bring about a reorganization of the Corporation if or when it is deemed essential and may request the resignation of the whole Board and nominate a new slate of Directors. In the event the NH Area 35 Assembly shall vote to vacate the Board, the Area Officers agree to resign. Examples of situations where a reorganization of the Corporation is deemed essential include but are not limited to:
 - a) The Board fails to conduct business as bound by Assembly traditional approval provided it does not affect legal obligations of the Board
 - b) The Board fails to take action regarding any member when just cause that warrants removal or censure is presented as defined in the provisions of the ***By-Laws of Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups – New Hampshire, Inc.***
 - d. The ***By-Laws of Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups – New Hampshire, Inc.***, and any amendments thereto having been approved by the Board are subject to recall by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the NH Area 35 Assembly.
 - e. Financial business and transactions as defined by an approved budget are conducted in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation.

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5. Assemblies: Composition of
 - a. In New Hampshire, elected representatives of all Al-Anon groups desiring participation meet together in a central location.
 - b. If in the event New Hampshire's Al-Anon population becomes unwieldy large, New Hampshire may petition the World Service Conference to divide and send an additional delegate to the World Service Conference, as provided for in the "World Service Handbook" for Al-Anon and Alateen groups.
6. Assemblies: Preferred Method of Election
 - a. District Representatives are elected from Group Representatives by written ballot or any other method agreed upon by the district.
 - b. Delegates are chosen from District Representatives by a two-thirds written ballot or by lot.
 - c. Alternates are elected at the same time and for the same term of office.
 - d. It is strongly advised that the term of office of the Chairperson, other Assembly officers and District Representatives follow the same pattern.
7. Panels and Delegates' Terms of Office

A New Hampshire Area Delegate is elected every three years at the last Fall Area Assembly of the previous panel for a three-year term starting January 1st of the following year. Subsequent elections occur every third year in accordance with the World Service Conference Schedule. The election of New Hampshire Area 35's panel of Officers and Coordinators is held concurrently every three consecutive years. NH Area 35 Assembly members serve within the Area on the same panel as the NH Area 35 Delegate.
8. Meetings: Assemblies
 - a. The Assembly meets tri-annually. In grave emergency, special meetings of the Assembly may be called. Assembly members may also be asked by the Board of Directors to render advisory opinions at any time by email or telephone poll.
 - b. Assemblies are concerned primarily with world service affairs of Al-Anon.
9. Board of Directors: Composition, Jurisdiction, Responsibilities
 - a. The Board of Directors of Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups New Hampshire Inc. is composed of qualified members of NH Al-Anon groups. The Board elects its own successors, with nominees subject to the approval of the NH Area 35 Assembly.
 - b. The Board is the chief service arm of the Assembly, which is guardian of Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions. Subject to e, below, the Board has responsibility to manage the legal affairs of NH Area 35. It may appoint suitable committees.
 - c. If any subsidiary services are later formed, the Board of Directors will be primarily responsible for their policy and financial integrity.
 - d. The **By-Laws of Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups New Hampshire, Inc.**, and any amendments thereto having been approved by the Board are subject to recall by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Assembly. All By-Law amendments will be presented to the first Assembly to be held after their adoption by the Board of Directors.
 - e. Except in great emergency the Board of Directors ought never take action liable to affect Al-Anon as a whole in NH Area 35 greatly without consulting the Assembly. However, it is understood that the Board shall reserve the right to decide which of its decisions may require referral to the Assembly.
 - f. The Board shall provide a report of all actions taken at any annual, regular or special meeting of the Board. Said report shall be made available by the Secretary to all NH Area 35 Assembly members within two (2) weeks of said meeting. Said report shall also be submitted at the next Area Assembly.

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10. Assembly Procedure

- a. The Assembly hears financial and policy reports of the Board of Directors and other Assembly services.
- b. Group Representatives take under advisement all matters affecting AI-Anon as a whole in NH Area 35, engage in debate, appoint necessary committees and pass suitable motions for the direction of the Board of Directors.
- c. The Assembly may recommend action respecting serious deviation from AI-Anon Traditions and Concepts of Service.
- d. The Assembly may adopt procedures and elect any needed officers as set forth in the **NH AI-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly Statement of Policies and Procedures**.
- e. A quorum shall consist of one-fourth of the groups registered in NH Area 35.
- f. Should any actions of the Board of Directors not be deemed necessary or appropriate, the NH Area 35 Assembly shall request Board consultation for resolution of said actions. Without resolution, the Assembly shall consider removal as per Article X, Section 4 of the **By-Laws of AI-Anon/Alateen Family Groups New Hampshire, Inc.**

11. General Warranties of the World Service Conference

The General Warranties of the Conference apply to all proceedings of the NH Area 35 Assembly. In all proceedings the World Service Conference of AI-Anon shall observe the spirit of the Traditions: that only sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that no Conference member shall be placed in unqualified authority over other members; that all decisions be reached by discussion, vote and, whenever possible, by unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference serves AI-Anon it shall never perform any act of government; and that like the fellowship of AI-Anon Family Groups which it serves, it shall always remain democratic in thought and action.

Note: The term AI-Anon includes Alateen. Therefore, the above Spiritual Agreement applies to all registered groups, including Alateen.