

## AREA 61 COORDINATOR/OFFICER REPORT

**Date:** 5/18/19

**Event:** Spring Assembly

**Name:** Cheryl Anderson

**Position:** Public Outreach Coordinator

### **WSO INFORMATION (if applicable):**

**AREA PROJECTS/GOALS:** *Current or long-term projects or goals proposed or active by you or your committee/group (Please include highlights and/or issues encountered). Feel free to attach another page to continue these report items.*

1. I have been busy since 2018 (not a typo – I started early!) and it has been a crazy rush to get done what the Assembly wanted done for Public Outreach (PO)! It will take a village to complete what our task is, but I know you will all step up to do your part to reach out to families that are affected by someone else's drinking. I am trying to build an army of boots on the ground that are all connected throughout the WHOLE area of Wisconsin and the UP of Michigan. I will need your help as you will learn in my report.

We have compiled a database of 306 facilities that will be receiving the Forum this year – Thank you Selwa for all the work done on this. That is 12 touches each, once a month, to treatment centers and women's shelters.

The database can be sorted by District for the ease of follow-up. The facilities have received 2 issues so far.

2. We have almost finished the Thumb drive project. We took all three PowerPoint Professional presentations (law enforcement, educators and healthcare and helping professions) and updated and streamlined the data and added verbiage. They were then scripted and recorded into a 6-minute movie. HOORAY! They will be put on a thumb drive with complementary docs to allow anyone to do a presentation to professionals. Our member survey reports over and over that the majority of members come into Al-Anon because they were referred by a professional. And what better way to get that to happen but with a professional looking and sounding presentation tailored to the professions that will do that. This is not quite done but will be soon. Thanks to Sandi H for all her hard work on that!

3. I have created a Public Outreach (PO) member committee of Al-Anon members. They don't need to be a GR or involved in District or Area service, just willing to be on a monthly conference call and be a foot soldier in the public outreach front. We have met three times and the group is growing. We still have unrepresented districts 6,9,13,14,16,17,20,23,26. If you are in one of those districts please contact me to see how you can help or if you know anyone in those districts have them contact me. Many hands make light work and this is what I envision. I need PO committee members and they need volunteers in every district willing to do a small bit of public outreach – speak at family day at a treatment center or a women's shelter, or be part of a presentation to professionals or even just bring literature to a facility. If we all reach out some, we can affect someone's life when they hear the message. If we all just stay in our own meetings and never reach out, Al-Anon shrivels and shrinks in your district and affected family members continue to suffer the effects of living with alcoholism. I have ordered a few more Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) so we have enough to get us through until the next time we can order. I want every District to be able to have them to give out for the projects we have going on. It seems the Districts that need the most help cannot afford to do Public Outreach and this way there will be more resources for everyone.

I'm really excited for the forward motion of the new committee and the actions that have been taken so far.

There has been contact made with many of the facilities on the list and presentations have been completed.

**QUESTIONS OR ISSUES:** *Questions or issues that should be brought to the attention of the AWSC/ Assembly. Please be brief. (These questions may be referred to the Policy Committee for answers or continued discussion with report back to the body.)*

1. Please volunteer in some capacity for this project. Let it begin with me. When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there, and let it begin with me.