

Sharing Area Highlights: 2015

Rhode Island

Phyllis Hudek, Panel 55

HIGHLIGHTS: 2015 saw the completion of our first year of AWSC officers/coordinators staggered terms with the transitioning of four positions. We created position-specific email addresses for all AWSC officer/coordinator positions. These “generic” email addresses will protect the anonymity of the trusted servants and will facilitate a smoother transition when positions change. Throughout the year, our Area office has had a small but very reliable group of volunteers which allowed us to have the office open for limited hours 4 days a week. We revised our Financial Policy to allow one-time memorial contributions from non-members in memory of a deceased Al-Anon member. We closed calendar year 2015 with a balanced budget, due in large part to the receipt of several memorial gifts and a very successful annual appeal. We adopted an Area Transition Guideline titled “How can I help the next person who takes this position?”. We had a great turnout for our Fall Assembly, with representatives from 50% of the groups in attendance.

CONCERNS: We continued to struggle with unfilled Area positions in 2015. Going into the Fall Assembly, 2 of our DR positions were vacant and the 3rd was up for election. Gratefully, all 3 were filled at the Assembly. We currently have 3 positions vacant – Alternate Delegate, Archives Coordinator, and *Lifelines* Editor. Due in part to the low turnout for our Spring Assembly the GRs in attendance at the Fall Assembly requested that we change the dates for future assemblies from June and November to late April/early May and October. This only allows me about 2 weeks to prepare my Delegate’s Report, but I am hopeful that the change of date will provide opportunity for better attendance and participation.