

# Area 8

## How We Serve the AA Fellowship

### Area 8

Area 8 is our area. Area 8 includes San Diego and Imperial Counties. The Area's main purpose is to elect a delegate who will deliver the collective group conscience of the Area at the annual General Service Conference of AA World Services. An area connects all of its meetings through the DCMs and GSRs via area assemblies and regular communication. The U.S. and Canada is currently divided into 93 areas.

### Delegate

A Delegate is elected in each of the 93 areas. He or she represents our groups by participating in the development of the informed conscience of AA as a whole at the annual General Service Conference held in New York.

### Districts

Area 8 currently has 23 districts with 20 geographic districts and three linguistic districts dedicated to Spanish-speaking groups. The General Service Representatives (GSRs) of each district elect a District Committee Member (DCM) who is the communication link between the Area and the District. DCMs chair the monthly district meetings attended by GSRs.

### The Area Committee

The Area Committee consists of DCMs, Area officers, and chairs of Standing Committees, as well as liaisons from other service bodies. Our Area Committee meets once a month to ensure that local 12<sup>th</sup> Step work continues to be accessible to anyone and everyone.

### Funding of Area 8

Funds for Area 8 come from 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions from the groups to provide self-support of AA services. Groups autonomously decide if and how to support the 12<sup>th</sup> Step efforts of all service boards and committees - Intergroup, H&I, GSO, Districts, and Areas. Contributions make all the Area's 12<sup>th</sup> Step work possible and make it possible for all AA members to participate in all levels of service.

### *This pamphlet is a brief description of Area 8.*

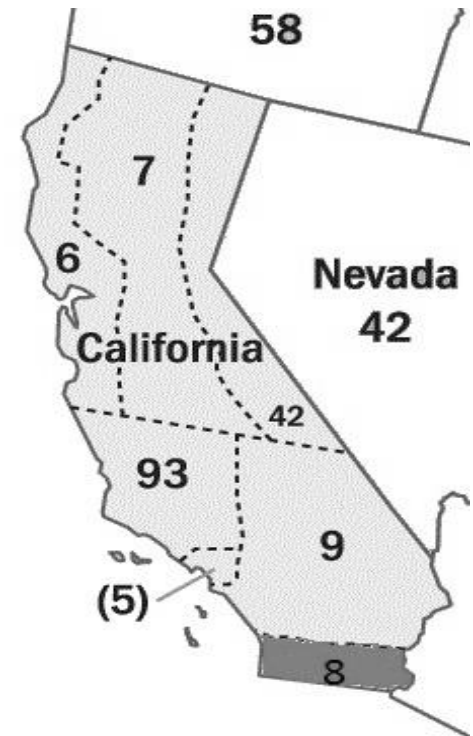
All AA members are invited and encouraged to participate in all general service work and the 12th Step work provided by Area 8 standing committees.

If you wish to volunteer, contact a standing committee chairperson, show up at a standing committee meeting or become a GSR.

The GSR, General Service Representative, enables your group to have a voice in the collective group conscience of AA World Services. GSRs and volunteers are the keys to sustaining the 12<sup>th</sup> step work provided by the Standing Committees of Area 8.

The Area 8 website has a monthly calendar of events with links to event fliers, along with contact links to officers, committee chairpersons, district committee members and Central Offices.

[www.area8aa.org](http://www.area8aa.org)



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# Area 8 Standing Committees

## Accessibilities

While there are no special AA members there are many who have special needs. This committee works to ensure all have access to AA meetings, 12<sup>th</sup> Step work, or AA service regardless of a temporary or permanent physical condition.

## Archives

Collects, organizes, preserves, stores, and displays records of AA history in San Diego and Imperial Counties, including documents, audio recordings and photographs. Archives service work is more than custodial activity; it is how we collect, preserve, and share the heritage of our Fellowship.

## Armed Services Committee

Carries the message to still suffering alcoholic service members, veterans, and their families by organizing personnel and assets available within our area and forming new relationships with our military communities.

## Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

Carries the message to professionals about what AA does and what it does NOT do. Committee members volunteer to participate on panels and give informational presentations to health fairs, county boards, religious and legal organizations.

## Finance

This committee assists the Treasurer in maintaining and proposing an annual budget for the San Diego-Imperial area. They review and make recommendations on Area 8's financial matters and its guidelines.

## Grapevine/La Viña

Displays the Grapevine and La Viña magazine, books, and other material to groups, districts and at other area functions. The committee's ongoing work includes encouraging fellowship members to subscribe and to contribute stories of their experience to the magazine.

## Hospitals and Institutions (H&I)

The H&I Committee is financially independent of Area 8. It carries the AA message to those confined in hospitals and institutions throughout San Diego and Imperial Counties. H&I coordinates panels, provides literature, and assists in establishing AA groups in institutions. It also helps AA members being released from institutions get to their first meetings in our local communities through the Contact on Release subcommittee.

## Information Technologies

Maintains Area 8's website as a vital method of electronic communication and storage of resources and other information. The committee is highly important in maintaining our AA tradition of anonymity, the Concepts of World Service, and Area 8 Structure & Guidelines in our communications. It supports and maintains the computer hardware used by the Area Committee officers.

## Literature

Maintains an inventory of all Conference-approved books, pamphlets, audio and video materials. This committee displays Conference-approved literature at events such as the Area Assembly and workshops and is available for Fellowship events.

## Newsletter

Publishes service-related articles and links to area reports and assembly minutes in English and Spanish on the [www.area8aa.org](http://www.area8aa.org) website. The bi-lingual published newsletter is available to the fellowship it serves via Email and in print at the assemblies.

## North County Hospitals and Institutions (NCH&I)

Serving the northern portion of San Diego County, NCH&I is financially independent of Area 8. It carries the AA message to those confined in hospitals and institutions throughout Northern San Diego County. It coordinates panels, provides literature, and assists in establishing AA panels in institutions.

## Policy

Following our AA Traditions and the Concepts of World Service, the Policy Committee reviews and makes recommendations concerning the Area Structure and Guidelines and General Service related literature. It is responsible for preparing and distributing copies of the Area Structure and Guidelines, proposed changes and amendments.

## Translation

Ensures that all Area documents are provided in English and Spanish so anyone can participate in AA service. The committee is continually in need of fluent English-Spanish participants.

## Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous Coordinating Committee (YPAACC)

Works to connect young people in AA to the General Service structure. The Committee coordinates annual workshops and cooperates with our Area 8 entities as AA modernizes.