

Task Force Report

* Groups that do not
consider
Al-Anon as a whole

* "Each group is autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as a whole."

* **4th Tradition**

* Why was this
Task Force established?

* *Members have raised concerns about:*

- Therapist-created meetings that charged fees
- Use of outside literature in meeting (A.A. and others)
- Groups with formally-structured and/or dictatorial sponsorship
- Funds misused or group financially tied to an outside entity
- ...and more

* *History*

* *In 2012, Thought Force question:*

“How can Southern California World Service (SCWS) support Districts and Intergroups in dealing with groups whose activities do not consider Al-Anon as a whole?”

* *History*

** In 2014, Thought Force conclusion:*

Create a Task Force “to prepare an Area Policy to help meetings remain consistent with AI-Anon Traditions and policies as presented in the Service Manual.”

** History*

- * Southern California's Group Representatives voted to create the Task Force.
- * Its 9 members began meeting weekly by telephone in February 2015 and we've met 50 times since.

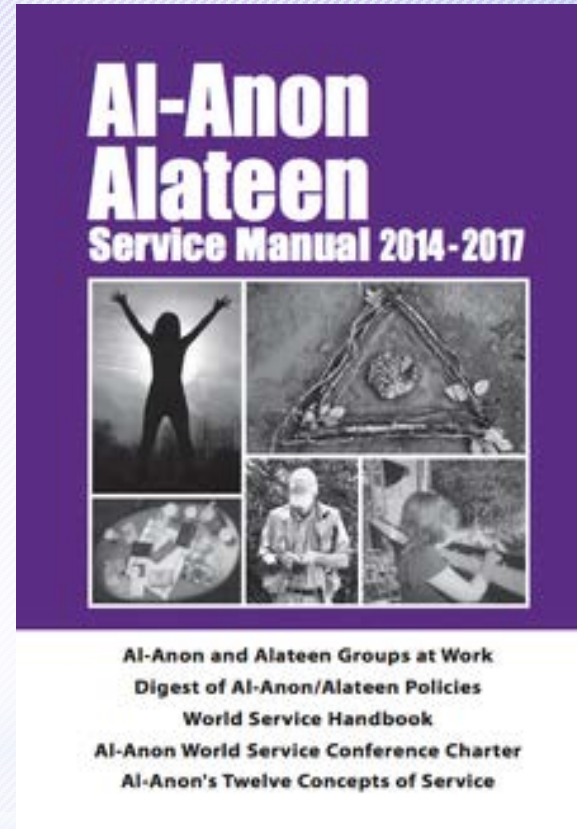
* *History*

* Task Force Process

* Do other Areas have policies?

* If so, what's in them?

* And how are they working?



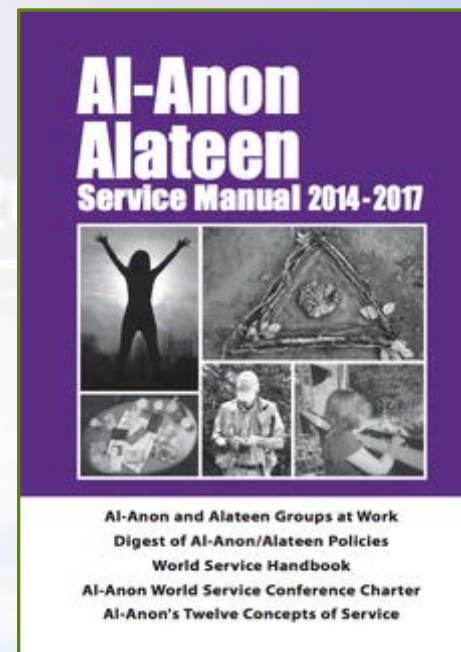
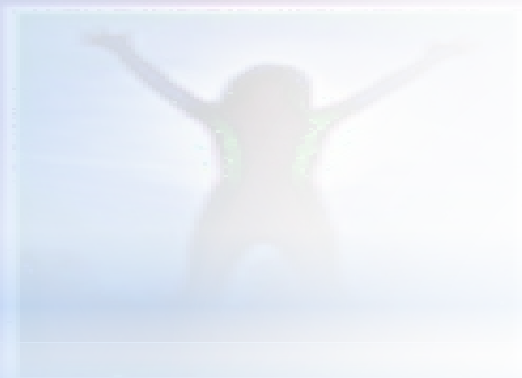
* *Task Force Process*

** Areas with policies approved by their
Group Representatives*

- *Ohio*
- *Missouri*
- *Virginia*
- *Tennessee*
- *Idaho*
- *New York (south)*

** Task Force Process*

Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017



Guiding Principles

Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work
Digest of Al-Anon/Alateen Policies
World Service Handbook

Al-Anon World Service Conference Charter
Al-Anon's Twelve Concepts of Service

*** Presume good will. Every member of Al-Anon sincerely wants what's best for individual members as well as for Al-Anon as a whole.**

*** When concerns arise, first gather information from everyone.**

*** *Guiding Principles***

* Education comes first

* Right of appeal is built into the fact-finding process

* If problems remain, the group has an opportunity to correct

* *Guiding Principles*

- * If problems remain after all of these steps have been taken, a recommendation may be made that could include the removal of the group from local directories
- * There is a process by which a group can become listed again

* *Guiding Principles*

About Concept 12, Warranty 5

- * Our Conference “will always try to act with mutual respect and love, one member for another...
- * that no action will be taken in anger, haste, or recklessness...
- * that care will be observed to protect all minorities...

* *Guiding Principles*

About Concept 12, Warranty 5

- * that no action will be personally punitive...
- * that, whenever possible, important actions will be taken in substantial unanimity...
- * and that our Conference will ever be prudently on guard against tyrannies, great and small, whether these be found in the majority or in the minority.

* *Guiding Principles*

* Southern California Policy
for Resolving Group and
Member Concerns

(Do Not Refer Policy)

* *Purpose of the policy:*

- to consider the unity of Al-Anon as a whole
- to keep its message clear
- and to help ensure the safety of individual members

* *Policy*

* *The Southern California Area refers members and newcomers to groups which adhere to:*

(1) the current *AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*

(2) current AI-Anon Guidelines

(3) the exclusive use of current AI-Anon Conference Approved Literature (CAL)

* *Policy*

* *The Southern California Area refers members and newcomers to groups which adhere to:*

(4) the principles expressed in the
“Three Obstacles”

(5) current editions of the CAL on
sponsorship

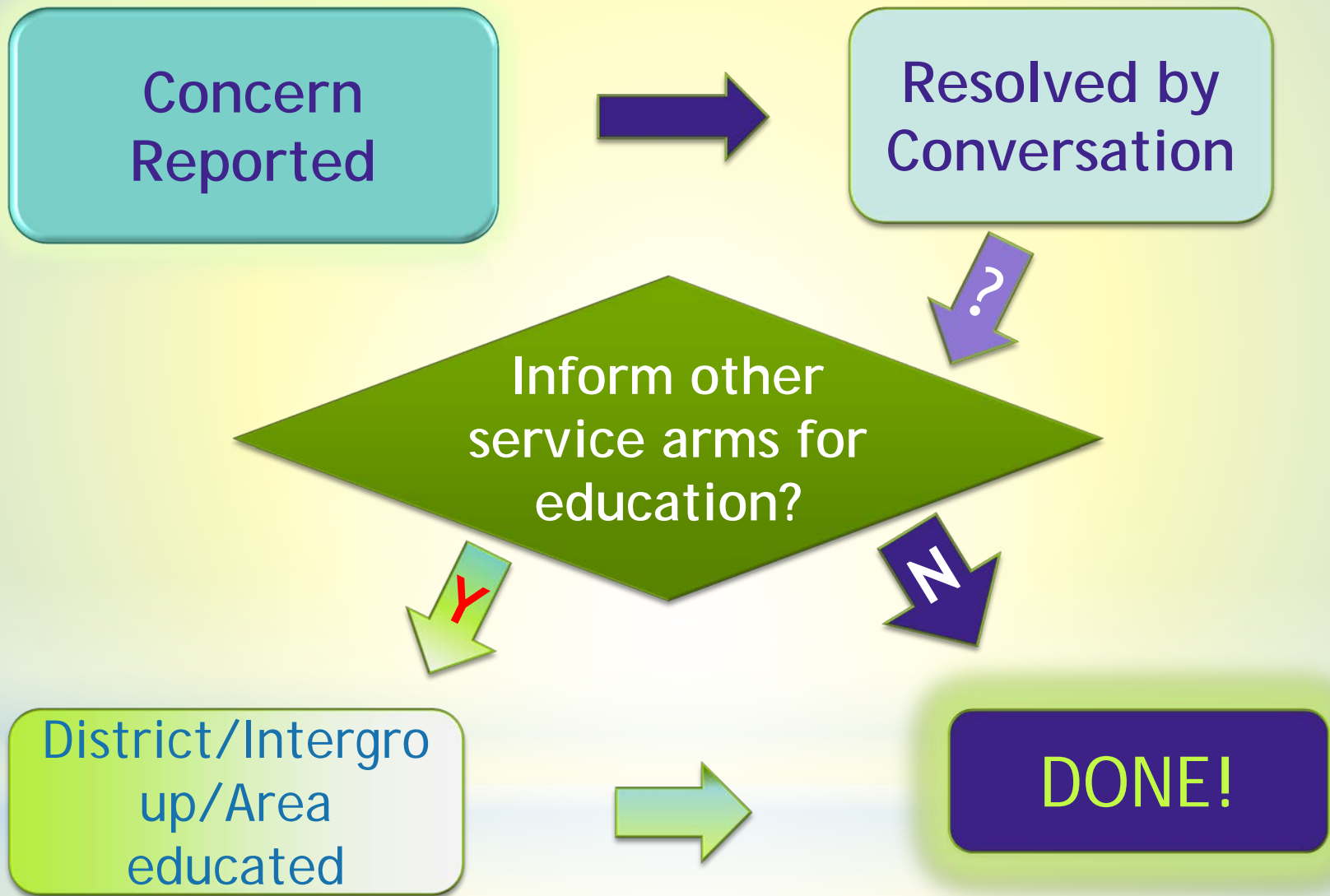
* *Policy*

*When concerns arise...

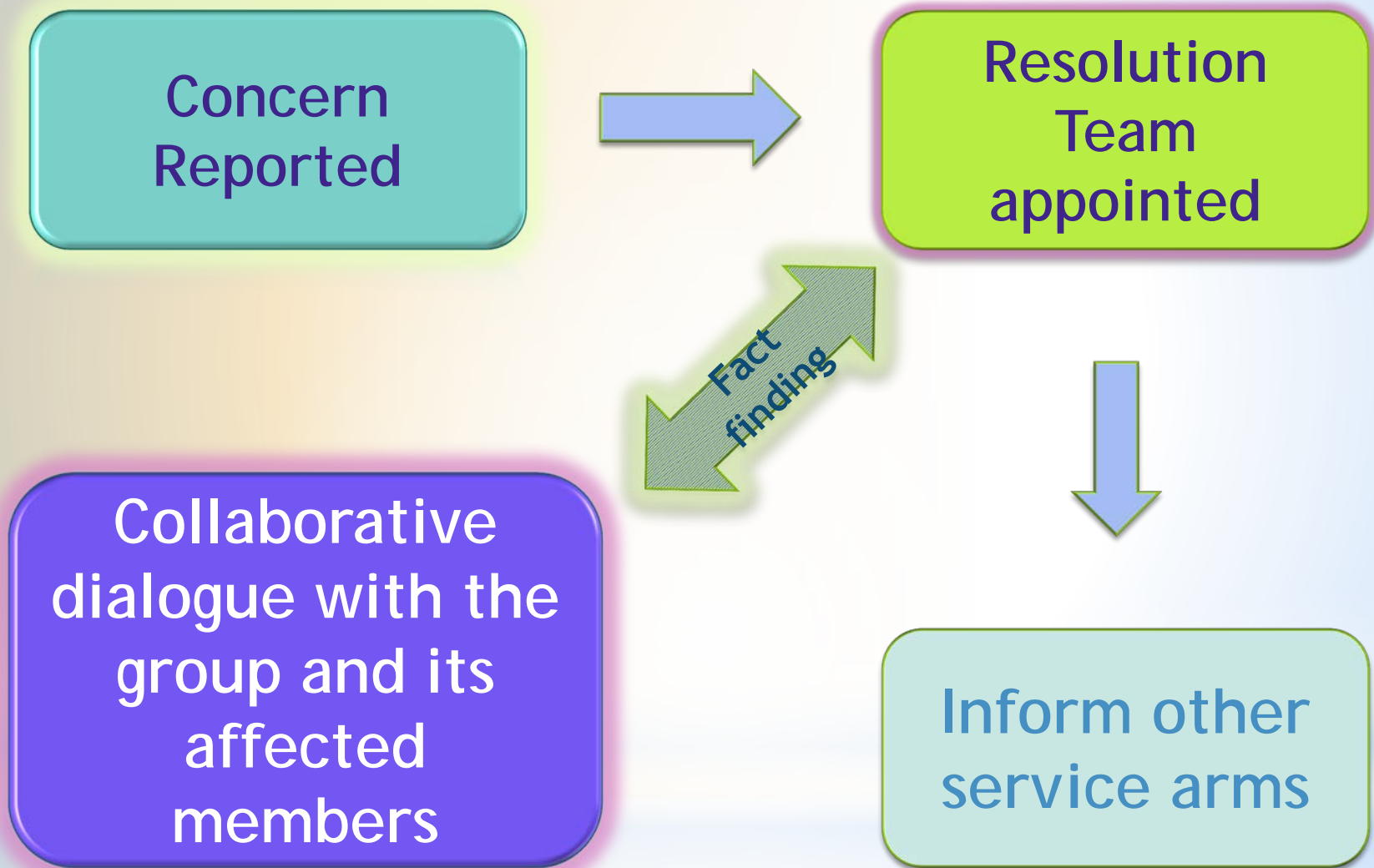
* *Reporting Concerns*

- Any individual may report concerns about group practices
- Initial evaluation: by the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and Immediate Past Delegate
- There will be a dedicated email account and mailing address for member concerns

* *When concerns arise...*



* Evaluation of concerns - not severe?



* Evaluation of concerns - possibly severe?

* *Fact-Finding*

A collaborative dialogue with the group itself, as well as any affected members, thereby ensuring that everyone is heard and can exercise the right of appeal.

* *When concerns arise...*

** Recommendations can include:*

- Nothing more needed
- Additional education
- Follow-up fact-finding suggested
- Removal from local directories

** When concerns arise...*

* *Resolution*

If the recommendation does involve removing the group from local printed and online meeting directories:

- a) Group informed in conversation to explain decision
- b) Group informed in writing with changes needed to retain local listings

* *When concerns arise...*

* *Resolution*

If the recommendation does involve removing the group from local printed and online meeting directories:

- c) Request then made to remove group of all local directories

- d) Group still has voice and vote at Area Assembly, District, and Al-Anon Information Service (Intergroup)

* *When concerns arise...*

* *Resolution*

If the recommendation does involve removing the group from local printed and online meeting directories:

- e) Reporting individual informed
- f) The Area will inform the WSO
- g) A report will be archived

* *When concerns arise...*

* *Right of Appeal/Re-List Process*

- 1) Group requests, in writing, to be relisted
 - a. Includes corrective actions taken
- 2) Delegates make an initial assessment
 - a. Responds within 30 days
 - b. Can appoint new Resolution Team for additional fact-finding

* *When concerns arise...*

AI-Anon Alateen

Service Manual 2014-2017



“In our AI-Anon groups and service arms, our freedom is balanced with the responsibility to preserve our Traditions and abide by AI-Anon principles.”

Digest of AI-Anon/Alateen Policies

World Service Handbook

Conflict Resolution Tool, “Autonomy: Freedom with balance”

AI-Anon's Twelve Concepts of Service