

Conference Delegate Report Summary

Lori Malin, Panel 66 Delegate

“Where Service and Recovery Mix”

The 2026 World Service Conference was held in Newport News, Virginia with the theme:

“75 Years – One Purpose”

This year marked Al-Anon’s 75th anniversary and brought together Delegates, Trustees, WSO staff, and volunteers from throughout the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Global Electronic Area.

Throughout the week, Conference members participated in discussions, presentations, spiritual workshops, committee work, and voting on important matters affecting the future of Al-Anon and Alateen.

Highlights from the Conference

Open Conversations & Participation

Conference members participated in open discussions focused on service, participation, and communication within the fellowship. There was continued emphasis on the importance of group conscience and the role members play in carrying the voice of the fellowship forward.

Group Name Policy

Conference members discussed the use of identifiers in group names. The current policy remains unchanged, with the understanding that all Al-Anon groups must remain welcoming to everyone affected by someone else’s drinking.

WSO Audit, Budget & Finance

The World Service Office presented the annual audit and 2026 operating budget.

Key points included:

- WSO remains financially stable
- Contributions and literature sales continue to support operations
- WSO currently spends approximately \$357.97 per registered group annually

- Warranty One continues to guide the goal of maintaining one year of operating expenses in reserve
- Funds continue supporting literature, outreach, technology, translation work, the mobile app, and member services worldwide

Electronic Alateen Meetings

Conference members approved motions related to Electronic Alateen meetings and safety requirements.

Areas may choose whether or not to opt in to Electronic Alateen. If an Area opts in, electronic meetings become part of that Area's structure and require trained and certified AMIAS-E participation.

WSO will continue providing guidance and training as Areas move forward in discussion and implementation.

Single Trustee Selection Process

Conference members approved moving toward a trial Single Trustee Selection Process beginning in future years.

The goal is to help improve Trustee recruitment while still allowing Areas to provide feedback during the process.

World Service Office Visit

Delegates visited the World Service Office in Virginia Beach, including the Archives Room and warehouse operations. The visit highlighted the history, structure, and worldwide support provided through WSO services.

Chosen Agenda Items (CAIs)

Two Chosen Agenda Items were discussed at this year's Conference:

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Conference members discussed how AI is rapidly evolving and how it may impact AI-Anon moving forward. WSO shared that they are carefully exploring the topic while remaining mindful of privacy, Conference Approved Literature, and maintaining alignment with AI-Anon principles.

Public Outreach

Conference members also discussed ways to improve public understanding of Al-Anon and reduce confusion between Al-Anon and A.A. Discussions included outreach to professionals, schools, libraries, healthcare providers, and communities to help newcomers find support.

Outreach & Future Projects

WSO continues work on:

- Website redevelopment
- Core Systems Overhaul
- Expanded eBook availability
- Public outreach efforts
- Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism
- Worldwide service support

Final Thoughts

One of the strongest messages throughout the week was the importance of participation, service, and unity.

The Conference reminded us that Al-Anon continues to grow through shared responsibility, informed group conscience, and members willing to serve.

Thank you, Idaho Area 13, for allowing me to serve as your Delegate.

Lori Malin Panel 66 Delegate Idaho Area 13