Friends,

I hope everyone had a great November and a happy Thanksgiving.

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, there was a letter sent out to the Fellowship from Bob W., General Manager at GSO, communicating the current financial health of Alcoholics Anonymous and the potential continued challenges ahead. To summarize, even though there has been a great increase in group and membership financial support over the past few years, due to the increased cost to print and distribute literature, the reduction of literature sales & profits, and significant impact of inflation, our reforecast budget for this year estimates a loss of \$997,000. To help mitigate an even greater deficit, the General Service Board and General Service Office have managed to reduce expenses to an average of \$15,768,000 compared with pre-pandemic levels of \$16,258,000.

In this letter, he is asking for the fellowship's support to help overcome the financial challenges we are facing. Whether it be through group or individual contributions, you can make a contribution through aa.org or by mail. You can make your contributions online by visiting <a href="https://contribution.aa.org/sca-dev-2020-1/checkout.ssp?is=checkout&lang=en\_US#login-register">https://contribution.aa.org/sca-dev-2020-1/checkout.ssp?is=checkout&lang=en\_US#login-register</a>. If you wish to make your contributions by mail, make your check payable to the General Service Board to:

General Service Office P.O. Box 2407 James A. Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407

In other news, mark your calendars and make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention, July 3-6, 2025 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. This will mark the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. If you haven't been to an international convention before, I highly recommend it. My wife and I made it to the last convention in 2015 in Atlanta, GA, and we had a blast celebrating A.A.'s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Being in the midst of 57,000 other sober drunks is an experience you must not miss! Make sure to check the Convention webpage at <u>https://aa.org/international-convention</u> for more information, the latest news, and FAQs. As the Convention approaches, the page will be updated with registration information.

Finally, I would like to thank District 11 for allowing me to serve as your DCM for the past 2 years. I've had a blast, and my appreciation and love for our Third Legacy of Service and Alcoholics Anonymous has definitely deepened as a result. Even though I am taking a step back to focus more of my efforts on being a dad, I still plan to be around and hope I can continue to be a resource. Please, do not hesitate to reach out if I can support the district in any way.

Below is a list of some upcoming service events:

## 12/09/2023: NIA 20 Winter Assembly Meeting

- In Person: Lord of Life Church, 40W605 IL Rt 38, Elburn, IL 60119
- Virtual: via Zoom

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- Zoom Registration Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUscu2prT0pHNw6Lvqt1ltKKhXP</u> <u>ahw8zW6a</u>
- Doors open @ 8am, meeting at 9am
  12/11 & 12/25/23: All Area's Open Meeting for Accessibility Committee Members
  Put on by Area 25 (Southern New Jersey)
- 6:00pm CDT via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 690 393 7306 / Passcode: Area45

12/21/2023: Legacy of Service Concepts Study

- 7:30pm via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 970 0499 1067 / Passcode: 639187

Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

Isidro (Sid) B. Dist. 11 District Committee Member dcm@aa-nia-dist11.org