

Motion:

The Young People Ad Hoc Committee moves that, “Washington State East Area 92 creates a Cooperation with the Young Community Committee (CYC), recognizing the chair as an Area Standing Committee Chair to be fully funded by the Area.”

Background:

On page 2 in our AA Service Manual, Bill W. states “**We are never done finding new and more effective ways of reaching out to newcomers looking for help.**”

In Concept IX, Bill W. states “**We must continuously find the right people for our many service tasks. Since our future effectiveness must thus depend upon ever-new generations of leaders.**”

Historical Problem:

- The 2014 AA.org membership survey showed 12% of members were under the age of 30, while the 2022 survey showed 9.2% of members were under the age of 30.
- AA.org shows that over 54% of members are looking for a fellowship of “members like me.”
- In 2023, 1.02 million 12 to 17-year-olds reported binge drinking in the last month, per DrugAbuseStatistics.org. And 25.44 million 18 to 25-year-olds report binge drinking in the last month.
- According to the 2024 National Survey, 16.6 million young adults ages 18-25 reported they drank alcohol in the past month.

Current Problem:

- There is no centralized point of contact within the area for other committees to fulfill service needs best provided by young people.
- Lack of communication at the area level for all the various Young People’s activities occurring across the Area.
- There is no specific representation of our “young” members in our area

Benefits:

- Encourage participation from Young People’s in General Service at Area and District levels.
- Streamline communication between young people's meetings and Area 92.
- Coordinate with other area positions to fill where there is a need for young people.

- Written reports provided at each Area Assembly and Quarterly to inform the attendees of our young people meetings and groups.

Frequently Asked Questions

How old is a young person?

Those who still have room to grow are considered a young person, or young at heart.

Does this position need to be filled by a young person?

This position would be filled exactly the same way as other appointed Committee Chairs, without restrictions or other specifications.

Don't the committee chairs already cover these responsibilities?

The idea is not to take away the service of other committees, but to better enhance that service by providing a single point of contact and an avenue of communication between the committees. This position will be a resource for other committee chairs where they have service needs that might be best served by a young person relating to another young person. All current Chairs have overlapping responsibilities.

Why wouldn't this position be better placed under an existing committee?

The volume of activity would engulf any existing committee and detract from their other activities. There is already sufficient activity to support a stand-alone chair, and the activities are continuing to grow. In addition, as a resource, this position needs to be able to coordinate with all other existing Committees.

Are there any examples from other Areas to mirror?

Yes, Areas with Liaison or Chair positions include (but are not limited to) Area 8 (San Diego), 11 (Connecticut), 18 (Idaho), 31 (Western Massachusetts), 46 (New Mexico), and 72 (Western Washington). There are descriptions on their Area websites of what these positions look like that could be mirrored in our Area. Much of this motion was adopted from that of Area 72, including discussion with their current Chair and the Committee's founding members.

If this motion is approved, the following would be added to our Area 92 Handbook:

Proposed Duties and Responsibilities

Mission Statement: “The Area 92 Cooperation with the Young Community Committee (CYC) encourages young people to enter into the mainstream of AA Recovery, Service, and Unity through the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions and the 12 Concepts for World Service. Young people are in no way separate from Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole as they are involved in, and committed to all levels of AA service. Age is not a requirement. Young people’s groups and activities directed towards young people in AA are helpful tools in reaching young alcoholics who might otherwise not give AA a try for many more years, if at all.

WSEA 92 Cooperation with the Young Community

The CYC Chair and members of the CYC committee are to inform young people about AA and General Service — what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. They attempt to establish better communication and relationships between AAs, young people, and groups that focus on young people. The CYC Chair will continually pursue ways of carrying the message of recovery to young people (English and non-English speaking).

Qualifications:

- The time to serve and the ability to travel within the WSEA 92.
- At least four years of continuous sobriety.
- Experience in group, district and/or general service.
- A thorough understanding of the AA Traditions and Concepts.
- Communication and presentation skills.
- Have “Basic+” computer skills.

Duties:

- Attend all Area Quarterlies and Assemblies
- Give written reports monthly to Area Newsletter, and verbal reports at Quarterlies and Assemblies.
- Encourage Young Peoples’ participation in General Service in Washington State East Area 92 through outreach and workshops.
- Participates in scheduling and chairs up to four CYC Standing Committee Workshops annually, and when possible, alternate the locations within WSEA 92.
- Be the main point of contact for those looking for Young Peoples’ information, resources, or service requests.

- Coordinate with established linguistic districts and Area committees such as Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Accessibilities, Treatment Facilities, and Corrections to identify opportunities to carry the AA message
- Coordinate service needs of all Area Committees where there is a need for young people participation.(high school panels, juvenile corrections facilities, youth treatment centers, etc.)

Expenses reimbursed by Area:

- Credit line of \$500 per year for outreach in the young community
- Expenses reimbursed by WSEA 92:
 - WSEA 92 two Quarterlies and two Assemblies
 - Travel
 - Meals
 - Lodging
 - Registration
 - Standing Committee Workshops (four per year)
 - Travel
 - Meals and Lodgings if required.
 - Communication Expenses
 - Postage, envelopes and copies.

If the motion passes: A new appointed chair position is created and filled for the Cooperation with the Young Community Committee.

If the motion doesn't pass: Nothing changes.