

SELF-SUPPORT

The Seventh Tradition states: “Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose — to help the alcoholic who still suffers.

Although the amount of our contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world, we may want to remember that a dollar does not support as many services as it used to.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Some facts:

- Currently about 40% of groups contribute to the General Service Office.
- Costs of Services provided by G.S.O. (as of 2016) are approximately \$7.15 per member per year.
- Gross profit from A.A. literature sales account for over 50% of G.S.O.'s income.
- Your contributions help ensure the future of our Fellowship worldwide.

Personal thoughts:

- What is the value of your sobriety?
- Does your group know that contributions may be made online at AA.org?
- Gratitude, expressed through contributions, reaches the still-suffering alcoholic.