

CNIA SPENDING PLAN PRINCIPLES

Don H, Treasurer & Drew R, Chair, Finance Committee
August, 2024

Approach

1. Recovery principles: transparency/honesty, integrity, discipline, responsibility and service.
2. Use group conscience and inventory for unity and finances – and follow purposes of Area (below).
3. Be aware of those that 7th tradition occurs at group, district and area level and informed by group conscience – Area can support autonomy in experience (e.g., workshops) not just \$.
4. Prudent spending (e.g., room cost sharing) and what is elementary and what is not? Make hard decisions.
5. Consider what is the best value of each dollar spent in terms of who it helps and serves and clarify Group, District and Area missions.

Business and logistics

6. Where is there redundancy (e.g., Oral Translation Chair and paid translation)?
7. Spending Plan reflects a 3-year average with both longitudinal estimates of current officers/chairs and customized estimates, if possible.
8. Follow federal trends on expenditures (e.g., mileage cents/mile), if feasible.
9. Make the Spending Plan (more) accurate and transparent: edit, spell out and less lumped.
10. Clarity of presentation: ongoing vs. new, one-time vs. regular expenditures, edits vs. additions, English vs. Spanish versions; use color-coded; dollar round off; glossary and notes, if feasible.
11. Balance the Plan in terms of expenses & revenue.

How to provide service to those we serve short- and long-term

12. Improve accessibility and extend the hand (e.g., translation/interpretation) and materials.
13. Consider organizational function, infrastructure and technology: procedures for requests and approval; information on a cloud; role of hybrid meeting.
14. Are there important functions for the Area or people who can help without funding who serve (e.g., past delegates' funding for Area meetings/events).
15. Consider context (e.g., meeting sites for 2024 for assemblies and PRAASA in SF) and what is sustainable (e.g., funding a chair to two meetings/year vs. letting them pick one)?
16. Update the Area Service Material Book annually.

Align the Spending Plan with the Purpose of the Area

AA Service Manual (paraphrased)

1. To elect a delegate to represent the area's conscience at the annual General Service Conference.
2. To form a local decision-making structure so groups can collectively decide on matters affecting the area.
3. To carry out Twelfth Step work that may not be practical for groups, districts or intergroups to take on by themselves. Examples include, but are not limited to: accessibility/treatment/ corrections, communication (e.g., bulletin, website), literature, CPC/PI, translation.

Area 7 Additions (Service Material Book) (combined, paraphrased)

4. Create a collaborative and cohesive culture at all levels of service – for full participation in GSC process – with unity experienced through meetings, special events & fellowship.
5. Develop and utilize best forms of communication to districts, groups, and members, including equal opportunities to fully participate through translation & interpretation.
6. Serve as resource for districts on BTG, CPC/PI, and other 12th step opportunities – by sharing service experience and serve as a guide for trusted servants to grow – and maintaining our Archives.