

# EXPANDING ACCESSIBILITY IN YOUR DISTRICT

## Five Steps You Can Take Now



### #1 Conduct Inventories of all meetings/locations using A.A.'s Accessibilities

Checklist as a guide, but further assess access challenges for members who

- Are Deaf | HOH \* Non-English-speaking \* Neurodivergent
- Depend upon public transportation to get to the meeting
- Need A.A. literature in alternative formats (e.g., large print, Spanish and/or plain language, audio, etc.)
- Need to bring their child/ren with them to a meeting
- Are reliant on communication devices that require Wi-Fi Access to operate them

**Ensure all meeting guides/apps are updated to accurately reflect accessibility.**

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### #2 Make your A.A. Hotline number Relay Service-friendly

Deaf callers can use a Relay Service Communication Assistant (CA) to mediate calls with hearing recipients by texting or using sign language to communicate their message to the CA who then translates by voice for the hearing caller (& reversing the process for the reply). Video Relay Service is another option. No special equipment necessary. Contact [accessibilities@cnia.org](mailto:accessibilities@cnia.org)

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### #3 Add the Sign Language icon to your website with a link to Deafaa.org

If your District is part of the CNIA.org-hosted website project, we can include this for you within the template. Contact [googleleadadmin@cnia.org](mailto:googleleadadmin@cnia.org).



## #4 Expand & Enhance Your Website Accessibility

- Verify website content is **Screen-Reader Friendly** and **Translatable** into languages other than English (the more options, the more accessible).
- Providing a **“Text Us”** and/or **“Contact Email”** option through your website expands accessibility for all members who need this mode of communication, rather than voice-only communication, when reaching out for help.



## #5 Discuss Accessibilities at District, Group, Intergroup/Central Office levels

- Take a District inventory specifically focused on Accessibility & Safety.
- Is your District part of a larger Central Office, Intergroup or Fellowship? If so, how can you work together to meet the needs of alcoholics who encounter accessibility barriers in AA in your communities?
- Collaborate with District H&I, Bridging the GAP, and PI/CPC Committees – the alcoholics these committees serve often encounter accessibility barriers and overlap of service exists

## Area 07 Accessibilities is available to assist!

Read: [Access 360](https://cnia.org/access-360) at [cnia.org](https://cnia.org)

Attend: [Accessibilities Round Table Monthly Meeting](#)

Email: [accessibilities@cnia.org](mailto:accessibilities@cnia.org)