

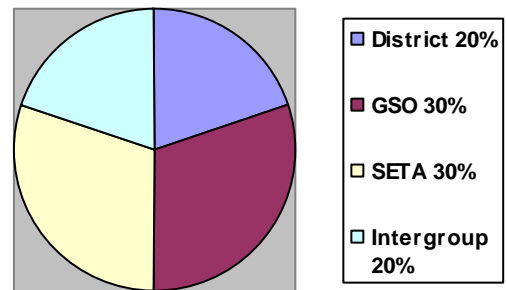
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Groups may send their contributions to:

SETA  
PO Box 130433  
Houston, TX 77219-0433

The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous suggests “Every AA group ought to be fully self supporting, declining outside contributions. “Self-support includes financial support of AA entities that support the group. These entities are: (1) General Service Office, (2) Southeast Texas Area Assembly, (3) District, and (4) Intergroup. Each entity supports your group in important ways: carrying the message around the world, answering telephones and taking 12-step calls, and keeping you informed about AA.

Please support each of these group services with Contributions from your group treasury after all Group expenses have been met. As a guide to deciding how to distribute group funds, SETA, with its knowledge of local activities and costs of these services suggests the percentages in the chart to the right. All group contributions should be made in accordance with your informed group conscience.



Groups without an active GSR are urged to elect one. Districts without an active DCM usually increase contributions to other AA entities by a % voted on by the group.

To make contributions to your District or your local Intergroup see the directory for that district and get the current address. Intergroups of Area 67 are listed below:

<b>Houston Intergroup</b> 5151 Mitchelldale, (Suite B10) Houston, TX 77092 713-686-6300 <a href="https://aahouston.org/">https://aahouston.org/</a>	<b>9th District Intergroup</b> 4224 College St. Beaumont, TX 77707 409-832-1107 <a href="http://aabeaumont.org/">http://aabeaumont.org/</a>	<b>Brazos Valley Intergroup</b> 837 N Harvey Mitchell Pkwy. Bryan, TX 77803 (979) 353-2538 <a href="http://bvig.org/">http://bvig.org/</a>	<b>Intergrupo</b> 5412 Birdwood Rd. Houston, TX 77096 346-288-7451 <a href="https://aahoustontexas.org/">https://aahoustontexas.org/</a>
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Why is there a need for time, talent and money in AA? The Illustrated pamphlet on Traditions does a good job in explaining the need.

**The Seventh Tradition**  
*Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.*

"Passing the basket" at meetings is our way of meeting our responsibility for the work of A.A. Our own contributions support the group, the General Service Office, and all A.A. activities



As active alcoholics we were always looking for a handout—in one way or another...



Part of our personal recovery came in making ourselves into responsible human beings



Experience has shown us, also, that A.A. as a whole needs to be self-supporting and independent

We do have to be practical. A group can hardly hold its regular meetings on a street corner, and an empty basket won't fill a coffee urn. As soon as we become active in a group, we learn how many expenses are involved in making its meetings effective. Then our horizons broaden. What about that intergroup or central office so many of us called to ask for help? Phone companies don't give free service. Beyond our own locality, we learn about the A.A. General Service Office and the work it does for groups everywhere. A.A. activity is self-supporting at all levels, and in every case the responsibility comes right back to us, the individual members, for we *are* A.A.

Perhaps, especially when we are very new, our contributions clink, rather than rustle. The first members were in the same fix, and it seemed to them that A.A. would need more outside help than the modest gifts then coming in.

Their plans required grand-scale philanthropy. (Tradition Six hadn't evolved yet; Bill W. recalled a scheme for "a chain of hospitals.") But John D. Rockefeller Jr., an early friend, said, "I am afraid that money will spoil this thing." A few A.A.'s had already reached the same conclusion; gradually, this minority became a majority as experience showed that members themselves *could* provide enough to finance A.A.'s proper aim.

In its simplest application, Tradition Seven is easily understood; when we hear about a new A.A. group being started with funds from a Federal antipoverty program, our quick reaction is "Somebody goofed!" But then we come to "borderline" cases: Groups put on a raffle for the benefit of their central office and invite the public to buy tickets; a hometown paper runs an ad for an A.A. dance and show. Both projects would be routine for any other society.

For us, both mean that we've got the hand out again, asking nonmembers for money.

Often, of course, we don't have to ask. A.A. is now high on the worthy-cause list; G.S.O. and groups politely turn down many unsolicited gifts and bequests. In Tradition Seven, there's a note of realism: Handsome gifts may have strings attached. We even put a limit of \$2,000 on the amount *members* may leave to A.A. in their wills or contribute annually while living, so that none of us can buy influence in A.A., no matter how rich we are.

Money may pose a different problem if a group treasury grows too fat, beyond a prudent reserve. Squabbling over uses for the spare cash, groups have lost their unity and strayed from their purpose. But there's one simple solution that strengthens our unity and advances our purpose: Give the excess to A.A. activities and services. . . .

***Help us help the alcoholic still suffering in the dark***