

**What is my Group's financial responsibility for Assembly and TEAM? How do we decide what to pay for and who is responsible for the two different parts of the weekend?**

Traditionally Groups are responsible for sending their Group Representative to the full Assembly, which runs from Friday night through Sunday midmorning. At these Assembly meetings we carry out the business of Al-Anon as a whole and here is where the Group has a voice in those decisions. In addition to making decisions the Group Representative participates in many learning opportunities (Thought and Task Forces, workshops etc) where they can bring back Experience, Strength and Hope to their Group.

At this Assembly we are cooperating with another Area Event – the TEAM event. Including it within the traditional time frame of our Assembly, it is our hope that most Group Representatives, as well as other interested Al-Anon members, will participate and learn new things about the Service Structure and the cooperation between Districts, Area and the WSO.

How each group makes the decision on financial responsibility is up to the autonomy of that group. On pp 51-53 of the Al-Anon Service Manual there is a great discussion on Group Business. In our Closing we suggest that we “talk to each other and reason things out with someone else” (Service Manual, p. 22). So it is my hope that your Group will discuss the upcoming Assembly/TEAM event and decide together how to proceed.

Many Groups have already made the decision to go ahead and continue to pay for the room, transportation and meals for the weekend for their GR because that is in their budget. The GR will then pay for their own TEAM Registration. Or some Groups even decided to pay that, thinking that it will give their GR much to learn and bring back to share.

Service, fellowship, recovery are all part of the weekend. We are using the Serenity Prayer as our structure for the TEAM event, and hoping to help each other find Serenity, Courage and Wisdom by sharing how Al-Anon aids our recovery from the effects of someone else's drinking.

You and your Group can make whatever decision is best for you. And all of us in the Area hope that it will include some time spent in fellowship in May.