

FL N TEAM Event May 6-7, 2017, Evaluation Comments

1. Presentation: Giving – Abundance and Our 12th Step in Action

What was the most valuable information you gained?

- Time was wrong, should have been earlier in the day, too long, got boring
- Re-enforced my belief in the program
- Insight to all that WSO does
- Money is our messenger
- Our “home” (WSO) family is awesome
- New perspectives on Abundance, especially time, talent, and value
- I loved seeing WSO staff in person. It was inspiring to see them and their passion for WSO vision
- That it is not about just material things
- No matter how little I may think I have, I always have something to give to others
- A better understanding
- 50 employees and how much WSO does
- A moment of silence
- Face up to fear
- What all WSO does
- Thinking of contributing to WSO as would United Way
- I’m enough, I am good enough
- All that the WSO does for Al-Anon and its members
- Could not follow first section, great with it following Moment of Silence
- Give what you can but give consciously and with purpose
- Moment of Silence
- Better understanding of WSO
- Abundance can be in thinking
- How important WSO is, confusing slides didn’t match narrative
- This was too long and too late
- Too long, too late, too light – couldn’t read
- Giving back will bring forward more abundance
- Thankfulness for my abundance
- Clearer understanding
- How important WSO is, and important to support it
- About dominance
- Realizing I am using abundant thinking
- Advances in technology
- It was all good
- WSO, what they do
- Structure of WSO
- Maybe having a short video showing the WSO departments and their services, slide show was a little dry

- Suggestions on how to shift my thinking to abundance from scarcity
- Learning to better practice using Step 12
- Personal stories, examples from several people
- “Donate” button on website
- Did not attend, too tired
- How important it is to support WSO
- Abundance, spirituality; I live by the two (2) of them
- Silence
- Shared experience with many
- Input to sharing and WSO workings
- Better understanding of the Services of WSO. Given the late hour, it would have been more enjoyable without the power point and use something else
- Clearer understanding of the full range of activities at WSO
- The abundance I have in my life because of AI-Anon that I have an opportunity to share
- I have an abundance of serenity due to AI-Anon fellowship. I can give abundantly
- Realized a lot of work done with few people working at WSO. (Presentation was a little slow and tiring after dinner meal).
- Recognition that I can choose to take care of myself instead of struggling through, with resentment, a power point presentation at night. I would rather have a transcript and read it myself
- Spanish – we should maintain an attitude of gratitude, using our tools, and trusting in God
- Spanish – there was no translation at the beginning, no one asked at the beginning if anyone needed translation
- Spanish – Hope and trust

2. **Presentation: Trustee Search**

What was the most valuable information you gained?

- Each of us can become a Trustee
- Would like more info on qualifications
- You do not need to be a Delegate first
- There is a lot of work behind the scenes
- Inspired to serve more and details in what a Trustee does
- That you don’t need special skills
- Not sure. That they travel outside of our country to bring the message to 25 other countries
- A better understanding of how the WSO operates and the rewards of serving around the world
- How much work is involved
- What the job duties require
- Just because we are on board, doesn’t mean we are “boring”
- How much work they do

- Was not aware Trustee is a volunteer
- Most of us are eligible
- Moment of Silence
- Better understanding of what a Trustee does
- Lot of travel, busy at meetings
- What is difference between Trustee and Trustee at Large? TMI yet not enough on requirements. Three to six year commitment but didn't explain how much time required and how much travel commitment
- This was boring
- Knowledge of Trustee selection and duties
- I was tired/full from supper and unable to follow. I needed some sparkle and interaction to wake me up
- Process for Trustee search
- Trustees are not paid and may apply to serve a second 3 year term
- Appreciation of this organization and love!
- There is a lot of time involved
- That I'm no different and I can be one too, if I want
- Using spiritual principles within
- General understanding of how Al-Anon is structured
- Learning more about what goes on at WSO
- Learned about the position
- Requirements to serve as Trustee
- Volunteer position, pure Al-Anon, travel, sic each year, 28-60 day per year, host international convention, costs covered
- Requirements to be a Trustee and all that they are responsible for
- Learned more than I knew but not all that I needed: (qualifications, term, etc.)
- Requirements of job/individual
- What a Trustee does and how much time is required
- Please revise presentation to personal sharing is reduced and requirements, commitments, process for search is increased
- Spanish – difficulty with the language

3. Area Presentation: Three Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon and Fear of Failure

What was the most valuable information you gained?

- The autonomy of the group is its strength
- Be willing
- The use of a moment of silence
- These topics can cause hard feelings
- I am not alone, other have the same fears that I do
- To be myself again
- Ways that people use excuses

- These three (3) obstacles have been long time concerns from the past and to present. Obstacles groups can overcome
- Other foresights that I didn't think of. Opened my eyes and mind more
- Tools to use against fear
- Different perspective
- N/A, to learn what I was expecting
- Don't gossip, don't discuss religion, and do not dominate
- Need to share with groups I attend about saying the Lord's Prayer
- How to avoid my responsibility
- Need to address fears give up to Higher Power
- Responses when meet at times compiled and read at mic, good suggestions
- A look into my own fears and my growth because I realized I do use my Al-Anon tools to snuff out my fear
- How to remove the obstacles
- Nothing new, but all good
- I thought the sharing, the variety was great! Questions were good too!
- Ways to protect the fellowship and how to combat fears of serving
- About Gossip, Dominance
- The break-out session was informative and the sharings from the groups helped
- How we're not alone in our thinking
- Gossip is passing your own judgment of someone onto others
- Liked table discussions and presentation
- Trust my Higher Power to be in charge of our groups, and to give us the tools to deal with the obstacles to success
- Sharings
- Learned more about my character defects
- Added views of the slogans
- Fear of Failure strategies
- Discussion about outcomes of group discussions
- An open mind is willing to hear different views from my own
- I need to step back and trust HP for volunteers
- Everyone is dealing with a lot of fear
- Better tools and ideas to take back to my District
- Other people are bothered by the Lord's Prayer too
- My District shares many of the same pitfalls/fears/emotions when dealing with groups, and we can overcome the obstacles with kindness
- Tips to use
- Fellow family member's sharing of their experience, strength, and hope about my hard questions
- Spanish – difficulty with the language

4. Area Presentation: Spreading Al-Anon's Message (Gallery Walk)

What was the most valuable information you gained?

- The importance of Public Outreach
- Technology
- Social Media info x2
- Knowledgeable and affable
- All of it. Very glad I made it. These are all things we know and talk about, but it was great to get to hear the details and made things more personally real and dynamic
- All of the information was wonderful, but I was shocked to learn how hard it is for Spanish translators and of the need for more
- That I can get my books on my tablet
- The dedication of everyone
- Copyright rules. This was wonderful! I so enjoyed going around, effective, a lot of information in a short time
- The copy right issue
- Spanish translators needed
- All of them were valuable
- Info about the Alateen events/conferences/round-ups
- I finally got on Facebook. How important (easy) it is to spread the word
- The many ways AI-Anon can carry the message of Hope
- Media presentation
- I found it all valuable
- Internet/Social Media and Public Outreach ideas
- Info about Alateen, Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- CAL emblem
- Needed chair to sit, unable to hear at times because I cannot stand that long. Thank you
- Our Spanish liaison offered excellent help and info concerning Spanish newcomers
- Info to share on outreach
- Public Outreach info x7
- Electronic Facebook, Twitter, etc., LDC details, Spanish AI-Anon
- We are a gentle program
- Public Outreach and CAL info
- Need for Spanish translators, Public Outreach pamphlet
- Very valuable
- Small ways I can make a difference
- Understanding all the arms of AI-Anon
- Learned more about Area and tools of the program
- Literature process
- Packet: best of and Risa's examples and info
- Social media ways to follow WSO
- Copy right rules, social media – follow on Facebook
- Everything was excellent
- Prepare literature for Spanish speakers

- Too many different things to fit/write in this space
- Somewhat acoustic issues. There are resources for outreach. There are Spanish from English translations of Alateen and Al-Anon books
- Better understanding of social media and Spanish dilemma of translating info
- Being guided to contacts at WSO to ask further questions
- Spanish – difficulty with the language

Did you feel that the WSO representatives were at the TEAM event to support and serve you?

Why or why not?

- Could have been presented in a shorter time frame
- They were all very warm and willing to talk with each of us as individuals
- Informative and willing to answer all questions
- Very knowledgeable, easy to relate to
- Because they visited, ate meals and spoke with us when away from the podium
- Their presence was so rewarding, seeing them come to us
- They were able to answer questions and if they did not have the answer they let us know where to find it
- They were very knowledgeable and whenever anyone asked a question they appeared to have an answer or directed the asker to the right person who could answer the questions
- They showed up willing to tell their stories, prepared and worked together to make presentations
- Needed more time at each station
- WSO people provide so much information
- Because they were showing us that we are all in it together
- They were available for questions
- Lots of experience, strength, and hope
- Was not aware of all the WSO does for Al-Anon, have more appreciation for WSO
- Very approachable
- Slides were out of line
- Everyone was so real
- Clearly love the Fellowship of Al-Anon
- They were friendly and helpful
- Their stories are own stories; their presence showed their support. Info helps to understand all that is prepared and done for us to have the structure of Al-Anon
- Marilyn/Elizabeth definitely clarified literature/Claire R. very helpful with Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook help
- WSO seems sometimes like a distant planet. It was good to sit together and share on Alateen structure and guidelines. I now have a face and real person
- Absolutely! Exceptional presentations and willingness to provide any and all support that is needed

- Fabulous presentations and continuing presence, mingling and participating. Very personable
- They were the best!
- Shared their experience and answered questions
- All three (3) were available to speak with
- They gave information by not a lot of mingling among members that I saw. They passed out “collection envelopes”.....
- Transparency sharing their stories
- Hearing their stories was very grounding/comforting to see recover in action
- They were patient, kind and able to answer questions
- Their stories are the same as my group member’s and their passion and support of the program
- Personal stories and experiences; in “WSO business”
- Loving, humble, approachable
- Wonderful stories and generous leadership
- They are Al-Anon members like the rest of us
- Awesome help, encouragement
- They informed us but we found that they are just Al-Anon members like us
- They were clear, articulate, patient, and well informed
- It felt like an honor to have them be with us and take time to share
- They were willing to talk to us personally
- Thank you! Thank you! Best of luck as you travel to more venues
- (No men). When you have to listen to someone if that don’t have the VOICE is very tired to be there for more 15 minutes people are going to fall to sleeping
- See above comments; previously, when I have called WSO, I’ve had no idea who to ask for. Now I have specific contacts, including one I have met here in person
- Spanish – I was able to ask them questions
- Spanish – I was able to learn more about the Al-Anon organization

5. Area Presentation: Moving from Sponsee to Sponsor (Panel Discussion)

What was the most valuable information you gained?

- Be prepared, Bob- Excellent, Jill – Excellent, Betty – Excellent, Best presentation
- How much I have grown personally
- Keep coming back, always something to learn as a sponsor and sponsee
- Important to talk about
- We all have the ability to sponsor
- How the switch was made by each panel member
- Reminded me of the importance to follow my program with a sponsor and to serve back and sponsor someone
- If I am working my program I might be able to help someone else
- A good sponsor cares, loves, listens, and leads by example
- Hearing live experiences

- I am able to guide someone
- That it is important to have a sponsor to work the program
- I like Bob's "Do's and Don'ts"
- Trust, honesty, and love
- Enjoyed listening to them all
- That your growth continues when you become a sponsor
- Scope of WSO service wonderful
- Experience, strength and hope
- Sponsors are needed and helpful
- HOW = honest, open-minded, willing
- Bob's "Do and Do not" list, Jill/Tina/Betty sharing experiences "precious" and encouraging
- Banner info presented by District 3 (my District)! I am so proud of all their hard work and to watch it from conception till now. I also loved all the social media info presented
- Everyone has a difficult time asking the person to sponsor them
- Good insights from varied opinions, love Bob's "Dos and Don'ts"! We have the same experiences all over
- How members felt about being asked for the first time
- Even if fearful, you can do it
- Benefits of sponsorship
- Loved the personal sharings
- All sponsors are different and individual
- Value of sponsor/sponsee relationship
- Listen to what's used, no commands, but prod
- The natural progression of my recovery. I'm so lucky to have 204 active sponsees in Al-Anon to help me in my recovery
- My HP will let me know when I'm ready to be a sponsor
- Awesome presentation
- The honesty
- How sensitive people are when choosing a sponsor
- Inspiration
- Betty's personal sharing about her relationship with her sponsor reminds me that though I am not close with my mom, I have many "moms" in Al-Anon
- Spanish – difficulty with the language

Did you feel that the WSO representatives were at the TEAM event to support and serve you?

Why or why not?

- Stop side remarks about slide show, DVD presentation – move it along, be better organized, duplicate slides, Marilyn tone monotone
- We all go through struggles and they were able to convey that they had theirs too
- They are all very knowledgeable and real people doing their job
- Involved in presentation (Gallery Walk)

- They have a lot of the same message
- They are human beings just like me, and have lots of experience and recovery
- Great talk
- It was to have been a breakdown of Serenity Prayer. That is what I paid for
- Willingness to share personal stories
- Participated in Gallery Walk/told their own stories
- We are all family and now I know WSO family too. It changed my concept of WSO, you guys are amazing, just like all of my Al-Anon/Alateen family!
- Very supportive for the whole event
- They were so supportive and real informative. Their personal program was very obvious
- They were not a part of this presentation
- Encouraging, transparent, kind, and supportive
- They are Al-Anon members like everyone else
- It's what we all do for each other in Al-Anon
- Warm, approachable, told their stories, experience, strength and hope
- Again, generous leadership
- They were among us during the weekend
- Yes, yes, yes, yes! Thank you Margaret, Mary, Venice
- We need dynamic people not people to put us to sleep
- They are here providing information, answering questions, encouraging us, carrying the message forward, heart and soul, and I am grateful to and for them

Do you believe you could be a Trustee some day? Why or why not?

- Limited hearing capabilities
- Do not feel I have necessary qualifications, only served as Literature Coordinator area level and convention chair in NY, and workshop
- Time involved, skill, travel
- Perhaps.... A lot of time is required, I still work full-time. In the future, probably
- Too much of a time commitment; not a "stick to it" person
- Feel like I do not have the level of education required
- I have been wanting to serve more and I feel my Higher Power (God) showed me something this weekend
- Because one day in my recovery I may need to step farther out of my comfort zone
- Maybe, can't see it right now, but only my Higher Power knows what my future holds
- Anything is possible
- Don't like travel or to speak in front of large crowds. Haven't served on the Area level
- Too old now!
- If it is my HP's will I will
- I am not in good health enough
- Not interested in service beyond District level at this time
- Unpleasant, present service experience in current association
- Maybe

- No, because of my age
- Not yet ready
- No
- I like serving and therefore may enjoy serving as a Trustee at some future date
- If God leads me there, not my direction today
- Health issues
- I truly don't know
- Too old
- Too much travel, how would I continue to hold my job and serve?
- Not enough recovery yet
- Would not be interested in this service area
- I do not have the administrative experience. I also have no experience beyond District level and have only been in for three years, some day!
- I'm not a big traveler and wouldn't enjoy that part. I like local activities
- If that's where my Higher Power wants me to serve
- I have much, much more to learn
- Because I love what Al-Anon has done for me, my children, and the future
- Maybe? That's quite a long way off though
- Everything is possible
- In the future, sounds like a phenomenal opportunity
- Not sure, don't meet requirement
- Too old and physically infirm
- The info de-mystified the position and qualifications
- Maybe, after retirement. I just offered to fill an open alternate DR position, if one day I become DR I may continue to offer my service to the Area and World Services
- When I am relieved of eldercare before I need it. Do not travel well
- Too big a job (for today)
- I'm always open to what my HP wants for me
- Probably not
- Not interested in that level of service
- It's all up to God
- I would love to continue to serve the AFGs. Give me a few more years to work my way through the ranks
- Not sure!
- Because I could spread the message if that's my HP's plan for me
- Physical limitations and not now, foresee much more recovery needed
- I made people sleep. I'm good for spiritual only not for talking
- I have always been interested in how things work and usually seek involvement. I'm not able now but will be in the future
- HP's will be done, not mine
- Spanish – too much information in English
- Spanish – service is part of recovery, giving to others what has been given to me

If you could change one thing about the TEAM event you would?

- Present it earlier in the day, when we are fresh, not at end of day when we lose interest easier. Too long, got boring, stop side remarks
- I would ask that when anyone is speaking at the mike, they speak into it, not to turn away from the mike and continue speaking. I missed a lot by the volume of the speaker being lowered away from the mike
- More break between events to allow rest
- Avoid repeating what is in the Service Manual
- I think it was perfect. I would have them more often, at least two (2) times within a panel, so new GRs, etc., get to hear the message
- Make it last longer. This was an amazing day and a half with some wonderful people
- Nothing, it was awesome!
- Since this is my first one, at the moment I wouldn't change anything but will take what I like and reflect. Thank you
- A weekend, District event, that more people would attend, closer to my District
- Can't think of anything
- Needed some chairs at each Gallery station
- More time for questions and answers in some of the ones that has more information for the Gallery Walk
- Have the power point presentation match what they are talking about
- More room and space
- Time – a lot of information, a little time
- Have the "Gallery Walk" groups separated more. Could hear what was being said in other groups
- Saturday night dry and too late in the day to follow
- Stick to the main topic being "Serenity Prayer"
- Allow more time in break out groups for GRs to discuss and share
- Have it as a "stand alone" event
- I thought the abundance and giving part was a bit boring
- More fun or activity during evening session after dinner to keep people awake and involved
- Separate from Assembly, be done by 5-6 p.m., my brain could not consume another bit of info after this time
- I would close the Saturday session a lot earlier, the day was too long and left everyone exhausted
- Can you please have meals catered by someone other than Hilton. I especially dislike field greens that are well past their time and disintegrating
- Need a little more sparkle and fun and interaction as this valuable information is flowing
- The small group breakout Saturday night did not have enough room at table for all of the participants at each designation. Participants outside of the table could not hear adequately

- That it would NOT be with Assembly
- Represented as the Serenity Prayer but not presented that way
- This was my first one so have not basis for comparison
- Nothing
- Add more spiritual meetings/activities
- Possible use of a video on WSO and services, nationally and internationally
- I would bring more energy for myself
- More opportunity to share in groups, growth opportunities to share without the mic
- Allow more time for everything, SERIOUSLY!!!!
- Add more creativity and flare to some of the presentations, which at times were a little boring
- Separate from Area Assembly
- Not attach to another event, makes for a long, long, long day
- That it not be an overnight, two day event so that the cost would not be as much for a hotel. More people would be able to afford it and come for the day
- Run it as a “fun day” at District level
- Interactivity is very helpful
- Cooler room
- Scheduling a little bit Saturday was a little long to focus
- Have it separate from Assembly
- Nothing!
- Allow people to pick which obstacle they want to discuss or option to discuss all three
- Attend one NOT linked to another event
- The speakers
- Use instructional design principles to 1) make presentations available on-line with options to read and/or listen to the content, and 2) make power points efficient, engaging and effective
- Spanish – start the translation when you start speaking
- Spanish – have the translation in written form and audio

Do you believe attending this TEAM event was worth your time and money? Why or why not?

- Lots of information
- I enjoyed meeting WSO members, they are wonderful Al-Anon members too
- Lots of great information and recovery
- I thought it was knowledge building, fun, and enjoyable
- It was my first one and I found it very informational, met new people with similarities
- Fellowship, getting a lot of info, learned a lot about WSO
- A lot of information, some new
- Learned a lot of information for my group
- It was very informative
- I learned a lot

- Gave me a better understanding of WSO and the different ways Al-Anon reaches out to its members and services provided
- Education is helpful
- But probably not if it weren't attached to Assembly
- It went too far off into WSO workings. Would only attend again if it stuck to the topic announced
- World Service became real and saw how much was done by so many and continue their fabulous program
- Information to take back to groups and great opportunity for fellowship
- Learned a lot
- It was very informative and growth inducing
- Encouraged participation/encouraged thoughts concerning taking a look at upcoming District positions
- I didn't want to attend, my ride and roommate did, so I stayed and I really enjoyed it
- The information given could have been done faster and more easily in a smaller forum or through an electronic meeting. Would not attend if I had to pay for it, at a District event perhaps
- Information, meeting other area people
- I felt like I had more input into how to do Al-Anon
- Showed me people who have successfully worked the program
- It was great to meet people from across the Area and the information was really helpful
- Soul-nurturing; many valuable interactions with wonderful attendees; valuable info
- All Al-Anon workshops or most enhanced my recovery and understanding of our program
- I learned more about service which helps my personal recovery and growth
- But the meals provided were not worth the price. I will make other plans for next year
- Growth in all areas, fellowship
- I learned so much about WSO
- I really enjoyed hearing about WSO
- Absolutely
- Spanish – a marvelous experience, the organization and affection made it a spiritual experience
- Spanish – the exchanges with other members, fellowship

Do you have a current service position in AFG? If Yes, what is your current service position?

- GR x 22
- GR and Public Outreach chair x 3
- GR and District newsletter coordinator
- AISL x 2
- DR x 6
- GR and District travel support chair for TEAM event
- GR and District Archives chair

- District Treasurer
- Alternate GR, group treasurer, District answering service
- GR, and District AISL x 2
- District Group Records
- District Group Speaker List Chair person
- GR and Alternate DR x 3
- GR and District LDC
- Alternate GR, Information Line Chair, Speaker List Chair
- Website Coordinator/Convention Committee
- District Group Records, Convention Publicity
- GR and District Secretary x 2
- GR and Alateen coordinator
- Alateen sponsor, West Tx Alateen Coordinator, GR, group treasurer, group literature, District Alateen chair
- Growth Investment Person (GIP) x 4
- District Alateen Process Person (DAPP)
- Alternate GR, secretary
- Group secretary
- Secretary
- Alternate GR x 3
- Group treasurer
- Information (telephone) Service Line
- Area level
- GR and 2018 Convention Chair
- GR and District Webmaster
- GR (1 group), treasurer (1 group), literature rep (1 group)
- Information line
- Literature Rep, Spanish intergroup rep

Extra/General Comments:

- Not good when people on the stage (Tina) are yawning!!!!!!
- Tina a great chair!!
- Thank you for your service!
- I will encourage others to attend TEAM events!
- The speeches by the WSO representatives were my favorite part of the event. I am very involved in my District so most of the information was not new to me. I can see that it might be very informative and inspiring for less-informed folks. Well done!
- I am a 63 y/o, white, female, single, grown children, ready for recovery. I fit the demographic and am available for service due to the above
- I am grateful for all that Al-Anon has done for me. Thank you for being there!
- No place on this form for additional comments!?
- Thank you!

- (In answer to the question, “Did you feel that the WSO representatives are Al-Anon members like you?) In many ways, yes, in other ways, not sure, and I’m grateful for them, regardless for the work they do, the service they perform and guidance they provide
- I believe the intentions of the power point presentations were noble. There are other, better ways to do presentations today. I am an instructional designer by trade and would be happy to consult with any and all Al-Anon Family members on how to turn their invaluable experience, strength and hope into efficient, engaging, effective presentations that can be accessed on-line, making them available to family members who do not attend Assembly or TEAM workshops but who would still like, and benefit from, the information.