

AFG Area 9 - Florida North
Spanish Coordinator Report
Panel 58, AWSC
February 3-4, 2018

My heart is full of gratitude for this opportunity to serve on this Area 9 Panel 58. I know that there are many things to learn and many experiences to enjoy and all I can say is **“I’M READY!!”**

Every day I am at awe for the support received from members of the Area, my District and the groups. When I started to visit the Al-Anon meetings, all I had in my head were doubts and the idea that this was a very sad and lonely life.... Not anymore! My Higher Power has showed me that if you reach out for help there is always someone willing to be by your side. What a great lesson this has been for me. Every time I have doubts or questions, even when I do feel that I am not capable, there is someone there that says to me...“Evelyn, you are capable”. It has become like a whisper in my ear. That is what I call a Blessing in my life, and service has been the instrument to show me that Blessing.

This will be my first experience at a AWSC meeting and I feel very excited of the learning experience ahead....Thanks Al-Anon!!!!

MY GOAL AT THIS MOMENT AS SPANISH COORDINATOR FOR NFA 9:

My immediate goal as Spanish Coordinator is to bring more Spanish speaking members to the table and be willing to share their ideas without fear of rejection. Many of our members are not aware that Al-Anon is a worldwide organization and that once they enter through the door of a meeting they belong to that organization. If we bring that awareness to all the Spanish speaking members, I am convinced that they will feel more secured and welcomed. I witnessed this dynamic during my involvement the last 2 years with the North Florida Al-Anon Conventions. The desire to offer service as workshop presenters and servants opened doors to many of the participants to express their willingness to serve at their groups and at their communities.

My long-term-goal during these 3 years is to have at least one Spanish group on each District of Area 9, so I will soon be in communication with the Representatives of the Area Districts for the coordination and to learn the needs of each District. I will also be visiting the groups to share their experiences and needs as a group. I think the necessity for the Al-Anon program at our communities is immense and, if we can all contribute an idea or an experience, the growth of the groups will be imminent.

New Organization:

- **New GRs:**

Spanish groups are coming to this new Panel 58 with new GRs and new members willing to get involved in service. These new GRs, even though they are not many, will be part of our next Assembly and I am giving them all the incentive they need to break their fear to participate. We hope to have each and every GR of the Spanish groups participating at Assembly next May and also to bring other members as guests so they can get an exposure of how AI-Anon is not just their group, but a worldwide organization.

- **Spanish Intergroup:**

We have a new trusted servant that will take the **Spanish Intergroup Information Services**. Her name is Betty R, and she is also the GR for the group *Una Luz en el Camino*, in Orlando. Betty did this service for many years in the South Florida/Miami area, so I am sure she will be a great help for us here in the North Florida Area. Last December we organized a gathering to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Spanish Intergroup, where it was announced that Betty will be taking the service and also to ask members to participate on the different service opportunities. The gathering was posted at the Area website and it was attended by approximately 50 people. We had one AA speaker and one AI-Anon speaker; both came from the South Florida area to offer us their experience, strength and hope.

- **Spanish Literature:**

The member that has been doing this service for many years have expressed a great desire to release this service to another person. At the moment I am talking to the different possible members that are qualified to take this journey. Our Higher Power will bring a willing servant to the table at the right moment, I Trust....

AI-Anon Survey

<https://al-anon.org/es/para-los-miembros/la-oficina-de-servicio-mundial-osm/encuesta-para-los-miembros/>

I've been encouraging all Spanish members to participate in the 2018 Membership Survey by sending an email with all the information to all the Spanish membership of Area 9. The Survey have links for English, Spanish and French speaking members. I have completed the survey myself.

2018 Al-Anon International Convention in Baltimore, Maryland
Congreso Internacional de Al-Anon en Baltimore, Maryland
https://al-anon.org/wp-content/uploads/2018_IntRegPacketSP.pdf

I have come together with the Spanish Information Service to promote attendance to this big Al-Anon event in July. An email with a link to the Convention website in Spanish was sent to all Spanish membership of Area 9. Also the Convention flyer has been posted at the WhatsApp group created "Anuncios Al-Anon" (Al-Anon Announcements).

Again, Thanks so much for this opportunity to serve and look forward to the next 3 years as part of Panel 58.

"La Participación es la Clave de la Armonía"

Evelyn T.

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"Se necesita una persona para comenzar algo, pero muchos otros para mantenerlo en marcha"
-Lois W., Many Voices, One Journey, Pg. 262