

April, 2025 H&I Report

The only purpose of the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee is to carry the message of AA to alcoholics in Corrections and Treatment facilities and facilities serving alcoholics in Northern CA. Here in Tulare County (Area 93), we do this by conducting AA meetings in the facilities we serve. Currently we hold 17 meetings monthly in 7 facilities and Tulare County Jail, utilize approximately 35 volunteers and distribute an average of 80 AA Books (Big Book, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, Daily Reflections and Living Sober in English and Spanish) per month along with Grapevines and LaVina. AA members from Tulare County also hold meetings at Corcoran, SATF and Avenal Prisons.

We are fully supported by funds from passing the pink cans at AA meetings from Tulare County to the Oregon Border established in 1957. Prior to 1957, H&I volunteers had to either provide the literature for the H&I meetings themselves or beg it from their groups, often stretching the groups' funds beyond their ability to pay for other AA services. Today, passing the pink can allows the Northern California H&I Committee the blessing of literature to share with our inside members at the approximately 25,200 meetings held in 2023 and have literature expenditures of \$471,400, thus supporting AAWS as one of the largest purchasers of literature.

At times we hear, "H&I is not part of AA". It is true that NorCal H&I is not part of the General Service Structure. We operate as an AA service entity, governed by the Twelve Traditions, and based on the spiritual principles embodied within the Twelve Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are "directly responsible to those we serve" as outlined in the ninth tradition, which is the AA fellowship of Northern California. This is the same manner a Central Office operates. Central Offices are not part of the General Service Structure but are an AA service entity, "directly responsible to those they serve" as outlined in the ninth tradition. Here in Tulare County, we support our Central office through 7th Tradition contributions. H&I is supported completely by passing the pink cans at meetings. In H&I we are entirely grateful that we operate as one committee, all pink can funds are sent to San Francisco and then literature is distributed back to the areas as needed. In 2023 Tulare County and the Prisons distributed \$21,000 in literature while our Tulare County pink can contributions were \$7,300.00. It is our hope that this information will be shared with groups to encourage passing of the pink cans in Tulare County.

To continue to grow, we need more volunteers. Please share this with your groups and send any interested volunteers to our next orientation: May 11, 2024; 9:00 am; at 526 N. Bridge Street, Visalia, CA 93291. This information is also listed on the Tulare County Website at aa-tulareco.org

In Service,

Jason K., Area 93 H&I Co-Chair