



The General Service Representative - The Most Important Job in AA?

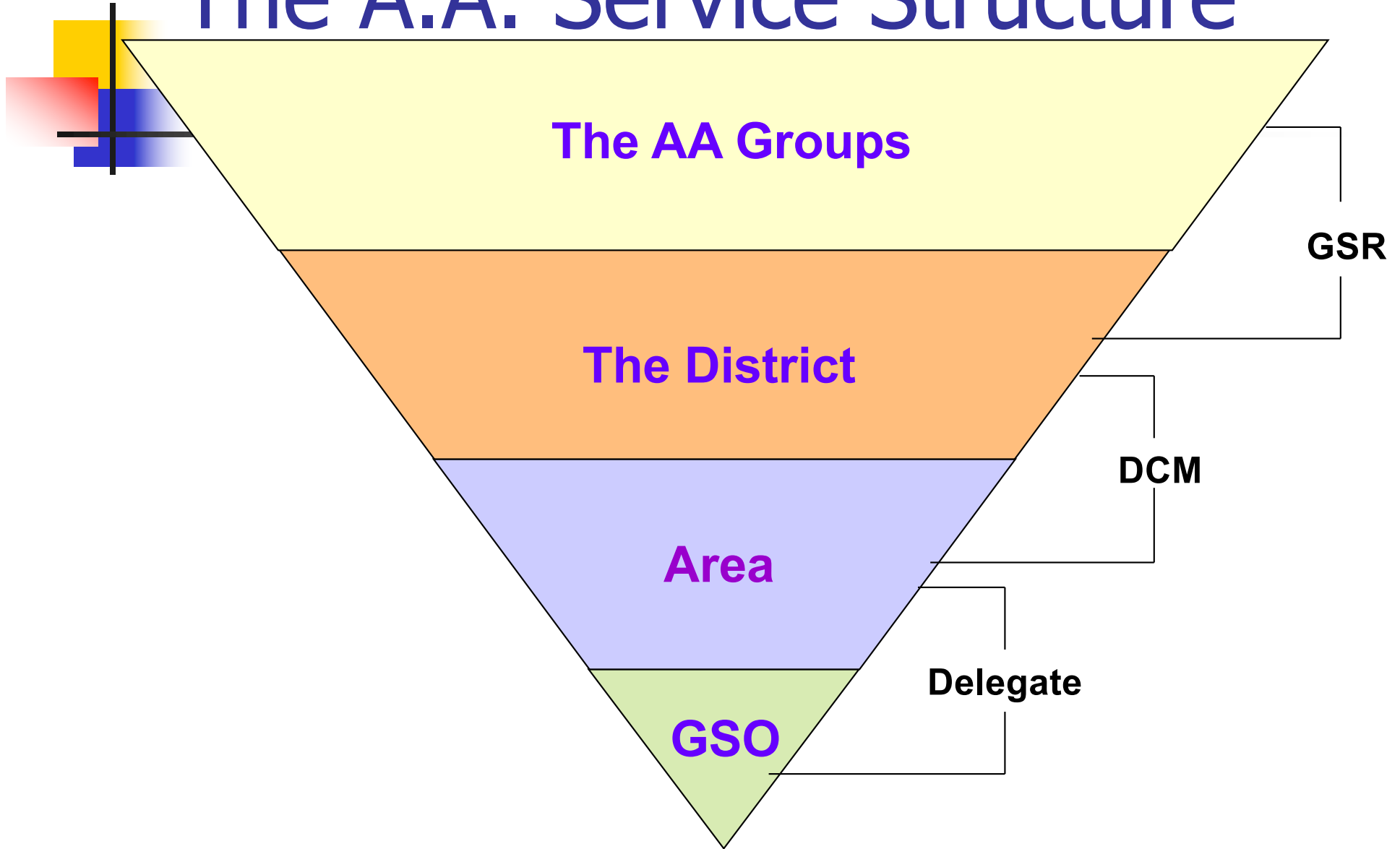
Area 12' s GSR School



Objective

- What is a General Service Representative (GSR)
- How the GSR fits into the overall AA service picture.
- Why does my Home Group need a GSR and alternate?

The A.A. Service Structure





The AA Groups

- The AA Home Groups are at the top of the Service Structure.
- The Home Groups GSR is the conduit of communications between that HG and the rest of the AA service structure.



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- The GSR informs the HG of happenings in the District, Area, and GSO levels of service so the group can develop an **informed** group conscience.
- Once an **informed** group conscience is reached the GSR then communicates this back to the districts.



Remaining AA Service Structure

- The District communicates to the Area in much the same manner as the groups communicate to the District, through the service position of District Committee Member (DCM)
- The Areas communicate to GSO through the service position of the Area Delegate.



What Makes a Good GSR

- The AA service manual recommends 2-3 years sobriety, active membership in the HG, and the GSR should hold no other offices in any other HG.
- Prior AA service experience is generally considered helpful.



What Makes a Good GSR

- The groups GSR should have the confidence of the group it serves, and an ability to listen to all points of view.
- A GSR should have the time available to attend all District (monthly), and Area Assembly meetings (quarterly).
- Should have a good awareness of the 12 Traditions of AA unity.



What Makes a Good GSR

- If your sponsor has been active in AA service, perhaps the best bet is to ask your sponsor “am I ready to be the home groups GSR”.



Duties of the Group's GSR

- Regularly attend district meetings (monthly) and area assembly meetings (quarterly).
- Act as the home groups mailing contact with the district, area, and GSO.



Duties of the Group's GSR

- Ensure group information with the district/area/GSO is up to date.
- They should become knowledgeable about material available from GSO including pamphlets, videos, tapes, literature, and guidelines and pass this information on to the group.



Duties of the Group's GSR

- They usually work with the HG treasurer to develop plans for support of the various service entities (GSO, Area, District, and Intergroups).



Miscellaneous Information About GSRs

- The GSR and alternate are elected to a two-year term, generally elections are held at the same time as the area and district.
- If the HG's GSR is elected to a position on the District Committee, the alternate becomes the HG's GSR, so care should be taken in filling both positions.