

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services

Introduction to Service for GSRs

By Eileen W. based on A.A. Service Manual Chapter II¹

Welcome to the world of service in our small but mighty fellowship of GreySheeters Anonymous. As a Group Service Representative, you are charged with the responsibility of listening to the members of your group, bringing them news from your intergroup and from the World Service Conference, and being the group's voice in the structure of the GSA community.

As is the case with other Twelve Step recovery communities, GSA is an upside-down organization. Rather than a structure where a few people at the top make the decisions and have the most authority, the top of our structure is the GSA groups. As a representative of your group, you occupy the highest tier in our organization, and are a voting member at the World Service Conference.

Most compulsive eaters in recovery are aware of only those parts of the community with which they are in contact: meetings, sponsors, and possibly a round-up or retreat gathering. They may have a vague understanding that people had work to do to make sure a meeting appears on the website or has literature to read, but in the haze of early recovery, little attention is paid to how meetings come to exist or how they remain open to help a fellow compulsive eater.

As a Group Service Representative, you will be the person who is in most contact with other parts of our structure. Members may look to you for information, a way to access our website and our resources. Your enthusiasm about extending the hand and heart of GSA to those who are still suffering may inspire group members to become involved in World Service committee work. As issues arise in groups, your group may ask you to communicate those issues whenever they need the attention of the larger structure.

But for now, just know that the members of your group have confidence in your ability to represent them. Enjoy this time and the people you will meet in your area intergroup, the things you will learn about GSA in the conference, and all the ways your gifts may contribute to the world-wide community of Greysheeters Anonymous.

And trust that we need your gifts, talents, time, and attention to whatever you commit to doing as a GSR. We look forward to working with you and getting to know you better.

¹ Updated to align with WSC2019 and WSC2021 decisions

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services

What is a General Service Representative (GSR)?

GSRs are an important link in maintaining and contributing to the growth and unity of GreySheeters Anonymous (GSA) around the world.

- A GSR represents their Group by **attending Area Intergroup meetings** to address issues concerning their group and other groups in the Intergroup Area and to elect an Intergroup Service Representative to attend the GSA World Service Conference meeting.
- A GSR is a member of GSA who **has at least one year of back-to-back GreySheet abstinence** and who wishes to practice the Twelfth Step – “carry this message to other compulsive eaters.”
 - If a registered GSA group has no member with one year of back-to-back GreySheet abstinence who is willing to serve as a their GSR, the group may choose to elect a person who has less than one year of abstinence. That person may serve as a delegate on a committee and to the World Service Conference meeting when they have one year.
 - In most intergroups, GSRs with less than one year will not be able to vote on matters before the intergroup including the election of a World Service delegate.
- A GSR is elected for a **two-year term of office** by each registered group of GSA at a regularly scheduled or announced business meeting. **A GSR represents only one group of GSA.** Terms of office begin immediately after the meeting of the World Service Conference.
- A GSR **attends GSA meetings regularly**, is familiar with the **Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of GreySheeters Anonymous** and has a determination to practice the Twelfth Tradition - to put **principles before personalities**.
- A GSR **receives information from GSA World Service and the Area Intergroup and shares that information with their group.**
- A GSR **subscribes to Service Matters** on the GreySheet.org website, reads each issue and conveys the information to his/her group to apprise them of what is happening in GSA World Service.
- A GSR **joins a World Service Conference committee** and supports the work of that committee, usually on a monthly basis between conference meetings, to continue the work of our primary purpose, to carry this message to other compulsive eaters. Current choices are: **Archives, Communication, Conference, Finance, Literature, Nominating, Public Information, Structure, and Website**