

Are Intergroups & Central Offices a part of Alcoholics Anonymous? Traditionally, general service committees and Intergroup/ Central Offices have performed different functions. Central Offices provide local services...general service committees maintain the link between the AA groups and the AA General Service Board by means of the conference.

So these two separate but vital service structures co-exist in many areas in mutual cooperation and harmony.

At the time the conference was started, there were already well-established Central Offices in several large cities, providing services for local AA groups and members. Today there are many more Central Offices located in the United States and Canada; supported by the AA groups in the communities they serve. In contrast, the Conference Structure is the method through which all AA groups in an area can provide the most effective communications within the area and between the groups and the General Service Board and G.S.O. on *matters of policy that affect AA as a whole*. These include policy on: Conference approved literature, AA public information, AA Cooperation, AA activity in treatment and corrections facilities, AA finances, the AA Grapevine, and the election of trustees to the General Service Board.

Many areas find that a liaison between the Intergroup & Central Office and the Area Committee is very helpful in maintaining good relations and communication. In some areas the liaison has a vote at the assembly; in others, a voice but no vote. **Reprinted from The AA Service Manual 2003-2004 Pg S37.**