Finance Update April 2020

Cathy T., Incoming Treasurer, and Cindy K., Outgoing Treasurer

The following update is based on the unaudited financial statements for the period that ended March 31, 2020.

Income:

Gross literature sales for March 2020 were \$237,081, which is \$109,367 less than actuals from March 2019. Budgeted literature sales for March 2020 are \$286,776. Year to date literature sales fell below budget by \$27,562 (3.0%). Contributions for March 2020 were \$154,346, which is \$9,317 less than actuals from March 2019. Year to date contributions are above budget by \$183,044 (42%) due to a bequest received in February. Literature sales and contributions continue to be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 virus.

Market conditions in March were not favorable as the market experienced a huge drop related to COVID-19 virus. The market continues to struggle each day but started to show some improvement toward the end of March. Unrealized losses from our investments in the Reserve Fund increased by \$747,896 for the month due to poor equities performance in the market.

Expenses

Expenses increased by \$68,891 compared to the prior year but are in line with budgeted expectations at 24% overall. Some expense accounts slightly exceeded budgeted expectations because of timing of expenses (professional fees) while others are below expectations. We are closely monitoring printing costs related to the *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* (*AFA*) magazine and are cutting costs wherever possible given the decrease in sales.

Net Assets

Change in net assets in the General Fund resulted in an operating surplus of \$20,563. The decrease in sales for the year reduced the previous surplus.

Reserve Fund

The decrease in earnings on equities provided an investment loss of \$1,059,308 year to date. The Reserve Fund investment account continues to be sensitive to market conditions.

Reflection and Insight:

As we report the financial state of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., the whole world is experiencing the most devastating event many of us have ever experienced. The COVID-19 virus is wreaking havoc in our personal and business lives. We have not been able to attend face-to-face group meetings and, therefore, have not been able to put our contribution into the basket. Our District and Areas have not been able to hold meetings or Assemblies. How are they doing? The members in my home group—and in another meeting I regularly attend—are keeping track of how much we would have put into the basket had we been able to physically meet. Once we get back together, we will be able to determine what we can contribute to the District, Area, and World Service Office (WSO). But what about the meantime?

The WSO is continuing to operate—processing literature orders through Customer Service and shipping products ordered, fielding calls for public outreach and to provide electronic meeting information, and keeping our presence known on social media and other services. While some of us are unable to contribute due to our own financial problems in the current economy, many of us can contribute. Any amount will be so much appreciated by the WSO. Be assured that the Finance Committee is keeping a watchful eye on our finances.

Please look in your hearts and pocketbooks and send a contribution to the WSO by check to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454 or go to the website: al-anon.org and look for the "Contributions" tab.

As always, please look at your own group, District, and Area needs as well.