



Budget and Financial

As of the end of January 2024, the NorCal Committee is in a “sound” financial position. Our income has increased 105.7% over last year while our literature expense has increased 24.9% over last year. We ended January \$9,432.17 in the positive due to a one time bequest of \$9,000.00 and an individual yearly member contribution of \$5,000.00 totaling \$14,000.00 in one-time contributions. This accounted for our positive cash flow. In order to maintain our increased literature expense, please continue your contributions to H&I. Thank you to all who have contributed. Our monthly financial reports and our IRS 990 reports are posted on our website: <https://www.handinorcal.org/finances>.

Inside Visitation Sponsorship Service (IVSS)

IVSS is actively serving San Quentin, Salinas Valley State Prison. The NorCal H&I Committee will be adding the Central California Women’s Facility (CCWF) and CTF Soledad to the list of facilities where the IVSS is offered. Congratulations and thank you to Dawn T., and Joe F. who will be assuming duties at CCWF and CTF Soledad respectively. At the end of December, the IVSS served 107 confined alcoholics. The overall match rate, sponsor to sponsees on the waiting list, is 83%. A new anonymous phone call/text/video system (GettingOut app) will be tested at CTF and CCWS for one year. This will provide an electronic sponsorship option for the IVSS. When the testing phase is concluded and procedures have been solidified, the appropriate additions and changes will be proposed for the **Policy Manual**. It is hoped that the addition of an IVSS electronic option will simplify clearances requirements even further, increase the pool of volunteers, and allow the Committee to serve alcoholics in remote prisons, such as Corcoran and Pelican Bay.

Proposed New NorCal H&I Position: Registrar Both previous recording secretaries mentioned difficulties managing General Committee meeting roster and mailing list on top of their duties recording minutes. In response, in October I proposed adding a new position of Registrar. Congratulations to Bruce A., who has agreed to assume the role in the interim as the first nominee. A Job description for this position will be presented at the April General Meeting and the addition to the Policy Manual possibly brought to vote at the April and October General Committee Meetings.

Major Facilities Updates Since the closing of the Deuel Vocational Institution, and High Desert in Susanville, Northern California has 25 major institutions under our care. Six are without Hospital and Institutions meetings. Jeff L., major facilities chair, has been working to arrange for a coordinator at FVI Herlong (Federal Prison, Lassen County), FCI Mendota (Federal Prison, Fresno County), PVSP Coalinga (State Prison, Fresno County), SCC Jamestown (Fire Camp, Tuolumne County), USP Atwater (Federal Prison, Merced County) and CSP Sacramento (“New Folsom” Sacramento). All prisons are in the process of building their rosters and volunteers are needed. There is a new clearance protocol in effect since January 1, 2024, which requires submission of all gate clearances and volunteer ID’s to headquarters. For information on volunteering for a particular prison, please read the H&I **Policy Manual** for general requirements and visit www.handinorcal.org/volunteer-prisons. Use the [NorCal map](#) to find the county and email the Area Chair who will assist you in obtaining an application, or use the roster of Major Facility Coordinators available in the H&I Newsletter.

Orientation for New NorCal H&I General Committee Members Are you a new Area Chair? Facility Coordinator? Regional Chair? Are you wondering what to do and where to find information? The H&I General Committee is preparing to offer Orientations for new NorCal H&I General Committee members. This orientation will introduce new members to the history and purpose of the General Committee, the General Committee structure, the **Policy Manual** and how changes are made to it, the roles and job descriptions of the various General Committee positions, how to submit motions and vote, how to read the financial reports, how to work together with other AA service entities and more! Additional information will be provided prior to the next General Committee meeting in April. You can even participate now by offering suggestions for content. Please send suggestions to Julio, B., General Chair, at chairnorcalhandi@gmail.com

QR codes for H&I contributions. The General Committee is exploring the possibilities of using a QR code for H&I contributions. The Finance Committee will review various options and make recommendations to the Policy Committee in April.

Help Wanted: The Committee needs an Audio/Visual Chair, General Committee Co-Chair and Spanish Communications Chair. Job descriptions are available in the **Policy Manual**. If interested, contact Julio B. at chairnorcalhandi@gmail.com.