

Report on GET INTO ACTION - May 13, 2023
 Topics: Sponsorship - Online and In-Person
 Problems & Solutions for Online Groups

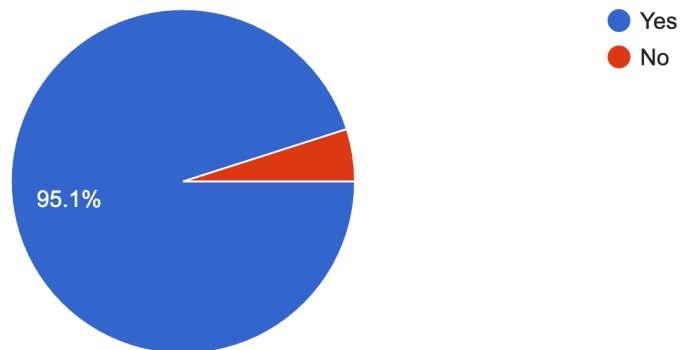
Program Run	Time	Number in Attendance
Opening Time:	11 AM Pacific	154
Program Closing Time:	1 PM Pacific	137
End of Parking Lot Session:	1:30 PM Pacific	57
Number of Survey Responses	62 (40% Response Rate)	

This session included a speaker from Kenya and simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, French, and American Sign Language (ASL).

SURVEY RESPONSES

Question 1: Do you have a sponsor?

61 responses



Question 2: Tell us about how you meet with your sponsor. (Please check all that apply.)

62 responses

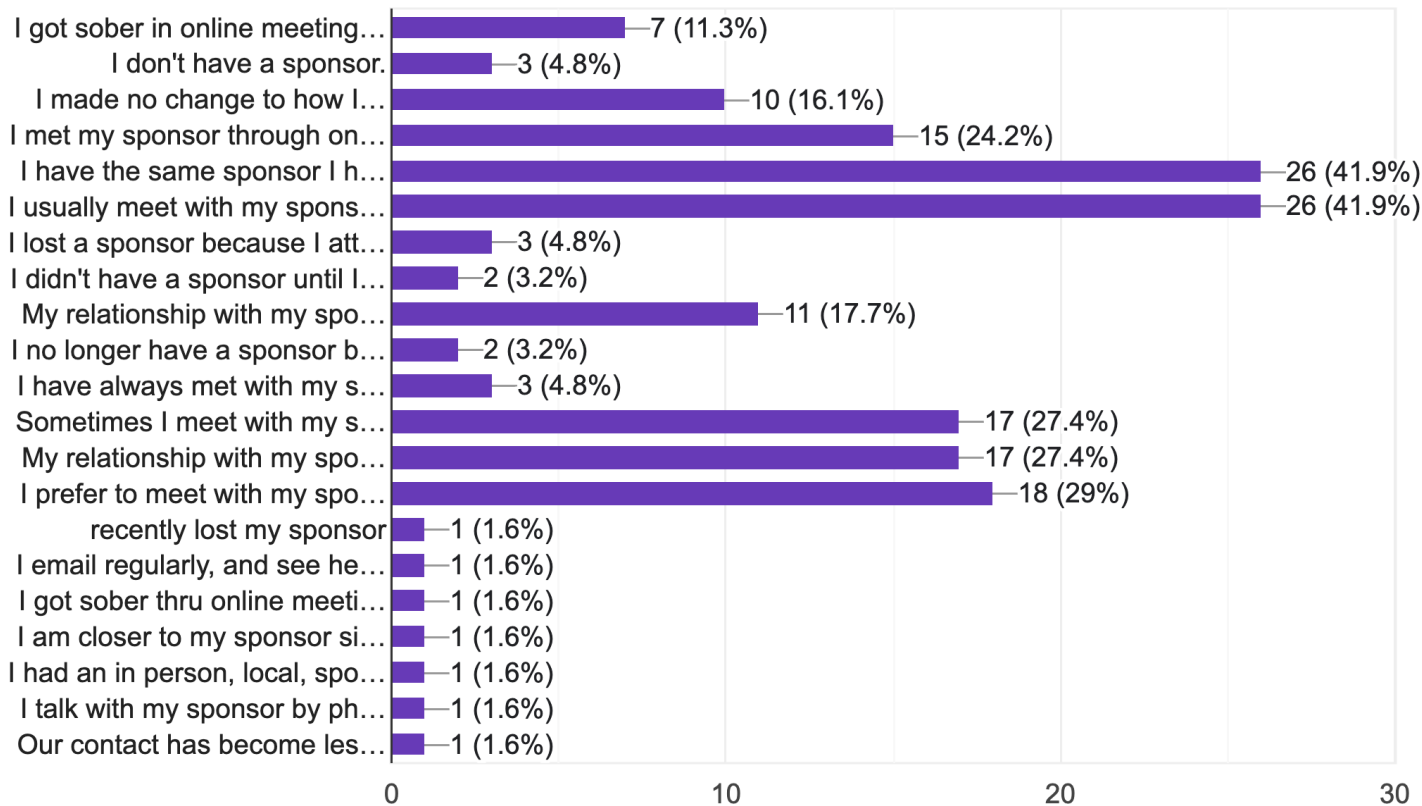
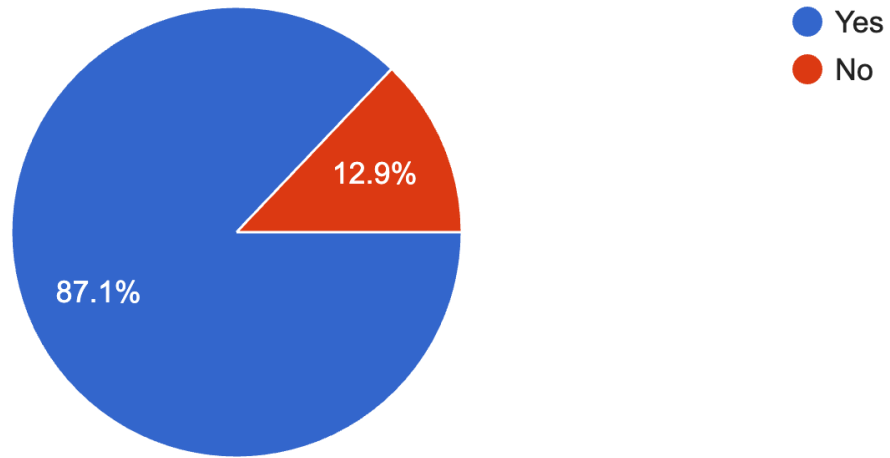


Table of Responses to Question 2

Question 2: Tell us about how you meet with your sponsor. (Check all that apply).	% of Respondents Selected
I got sober in online meetings; so, I meet with my sponsor online.	11.4%
I don't have a sponsor.	4.8%
I made no change to how I meet with my sponsor when I began attending online meetings.	16.1%
I met my sponsor through online meetings.	24.2%
I have the same sponsor I had before I began attending online meetings.	41.9%
I usually meet with my sponsor by phone.	41.9%
I lost a sponsor because I attend online meetings.	4.8%
I didn't have a sponsor until I attended online meetings.	3.2%
My relationship with my sponsor strengthened with my attendance to online meetings.	17.7%
I no longer have a sponsor because we could no longer meet in person.	3.2%
I have always met with my sponsor in person.	4.8%
Sometimes I meet with my sponsor in person, but we often need to meet by phone or internet.	27.4%
My relationship with my sponsor has improved because we can meet online or by phone.	27.4%
I prefer to meet with my sponsor online or by phone as well as in person.	29%
I got sober thru online meetings. I met my sponsor through networking. We have only met face to face once.	1.6%
I talk with my sponsor by phone for the most part but we also meet as a small group with other sponsees in Zoom. Phone and Zoom have worked well for us!	1.6%
I email regularly, and see her occasionally, if in her hometown.	1.6%
Our contact has become less frequent/more distant, my fault	1.6%
I am closer to my sponsor since online meetings became popular because she doesn't live in my area.	1.6%
I had an in person, local, sponsor until I found a 3 legacy person able to sponsor me while attending a meeting online. We live 2 hours apart and zoom our step work.	1.6%
I recently lost my sponsor.	1.6%

Question 3: Do you sponsor other members?

62 responses



Question 4: Tell us about how you meet with members you sponsor. (Please check all that apply.)

57 responses

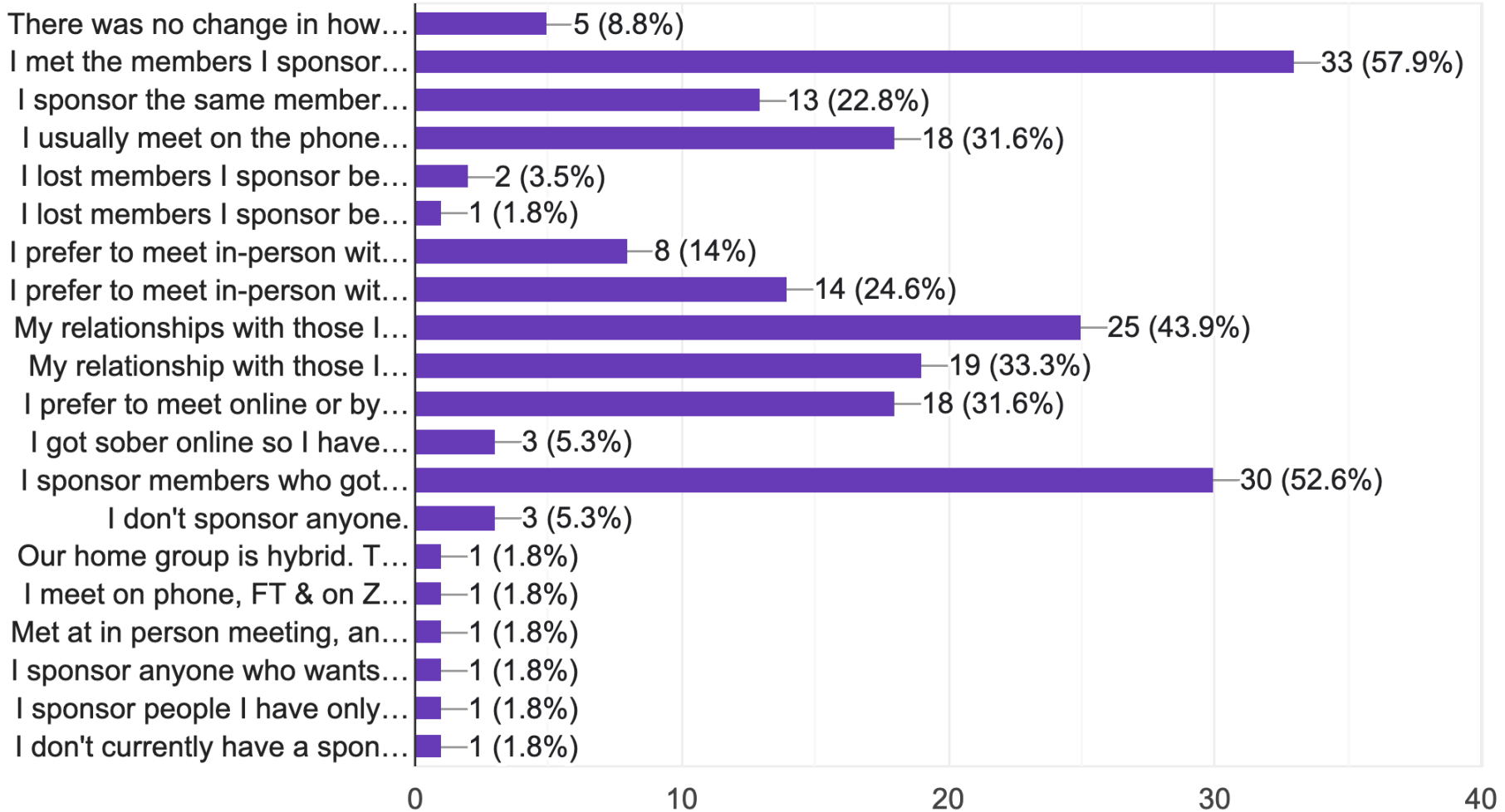
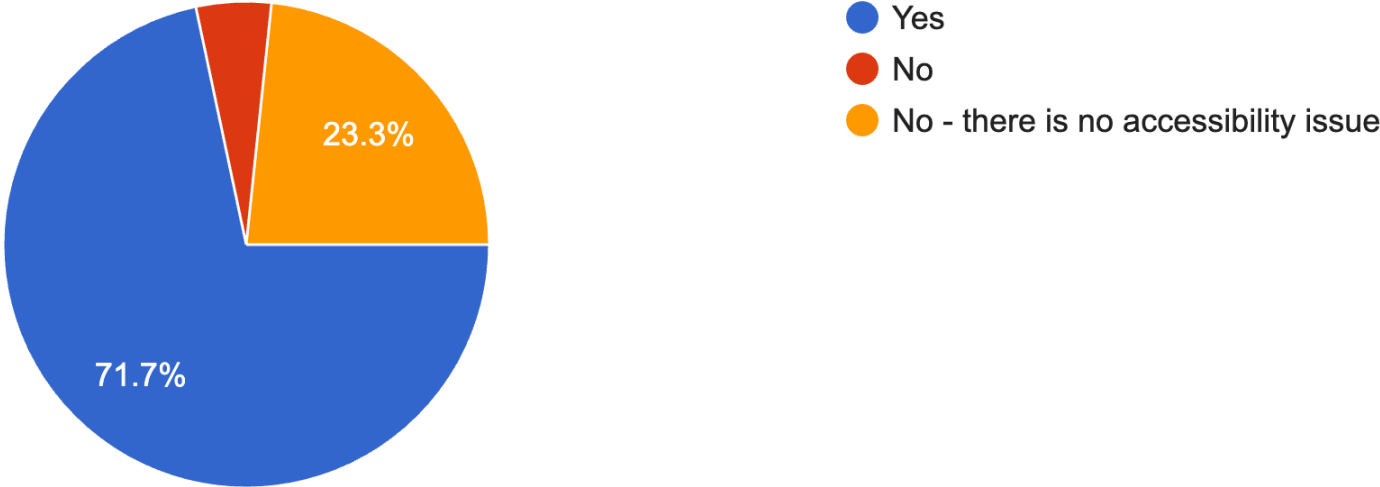


Table of Responses to Question 4

Question 4: Tell us about how you meet with members you sponsor. (Check all that apply).	% of Respondents Selected
There was no change in how I meet with the members I sponsor when I began attending online meetings.	8.8%
I met the members I sponsor through online meetings.	57.9%
I sponsor the same members I had before I began attending online meetings.	22.8%
I usually meet on the phone with the members I sponsor.	31.6%
I lost members I sponsor because I moved to online meetings.	3.5%
I lost members I sponsor because we could no longer meet in person.	1.8%
I prefer to meet in-person with the members I sponsor .	14%
I prefer to meet in-person with the members I sponsor, but we often need to meet by phone or internet.	24.6%
My relationships with those I sponsor have improved because we can meet online or by phone.	43.9%
My relationship with those I sponsor strengthened with my attendance to online meetings.	33.3%
I prefer to meet online or by phone with the members I sponsor but we also meet in person.	31.6%
I got sober online so I have only met online with the people I sponsor people.	5.3%
I sponsor members who got sober in online meetings.	52.6%
I don't sponsor anyone.	5.3%
Our home group is hybrid. This works well.	1.6%
I meet on phone, FT & on ZOOM.	1.8%
Met at in person meeting, and now sponsor via email.	1.8%
I sponsor anyone who wants my help, using methods chosen by those I sponsor.	1.8%
I sponsor people I have only met on-line as well as people that I have met in brick and mortar mtgs.	1.8%
I don't currently have a sponsee.	1.8%

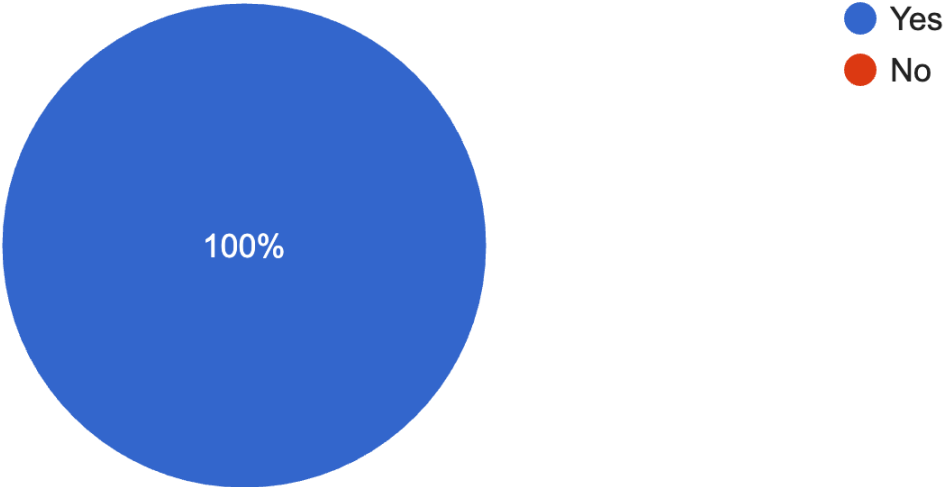
Question 5: Do you or your sponsees attend online meetings because they enable you to overcome accessibility issues such as bad weather, child care, ...s, being a caregiver, hearing loss, inactivity, etc.?

60 responses



Question 6: Is working the Twelve Steps a regular part of your discussions with your sponsor and those you sponsor?

62 responses



Question 7: Please tell us why you have recommended online meetings to others. It was because someone expressed.... (Please check all that apply.)

61 responses

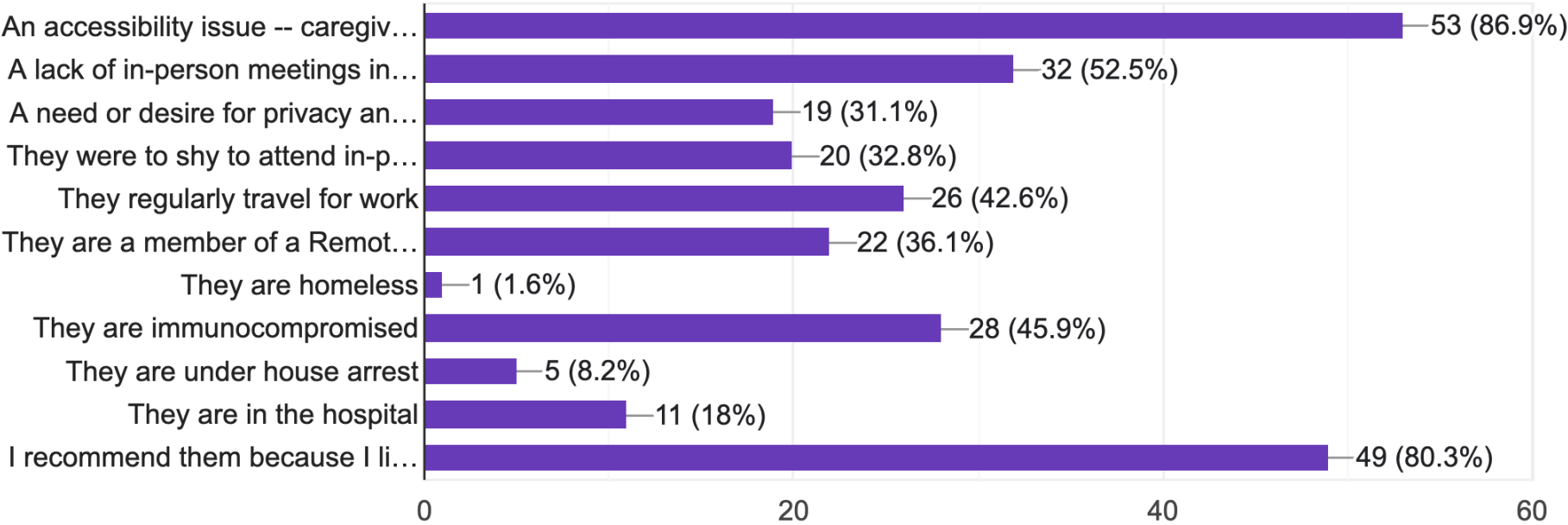


Table of Responses to Question 7

Question 7: Please tell us why you have recommended online meetings to others. It was because someone expressed.... (Please check all that apply.)	% of Respondents Selected
An accessibility issue -- caregiving responsibilities, irregular work schedule, illness, loss of hearing, loss of ability to drive, etc.	86.9%
A lack of in-person meetings in their local geography	52.5%
A need or desire for privacy and anonymity	31.1%
They were too shy to attend in-person meetings until learning more about AA	32.8%
They regularly travel for work	42.6%
They are a member of a Remote Community and can find more people like them in an online meeting	36.1%
They are homeless	1.6%
They are immunocompromised	45.9%
They are under house arrest	8.2%
They are in the hospital	18%
I recommend them because I like them!	80.3%

Table of Responses to Question 8

Question 8: Please tell us how we can continue or improve the discussion of sponsorship.

Best practices for sponsorship in an online world.

Perhaps put out (publish) more stories about sponsor-sponsee interactions, and the benefits of sponsorship (from both sides)

I think the more discussion re: the practical details re: what it "looks like" to sponsor someone/work the steps online

This is a great meeting and an important topic. I encourage the group to continue having a meeting on this topic but don't have other suggestions for now. Keep this a regular topic (annual perhaps).

Sponsorship is intensely personal. my input matters little, other than it's importance to the overall health of Alcoholics Anonymous

Discussion on how to have the online presence as a part of the service structure

Would enjoy a Step Workshop!

This helps - more of same - breakout groups for more sharing? or smaller groups?

Reiterate we don't tell, we suggest and share our own experience strength and hope

I would love to have the kind of Sponsorship Forms the Key West group uses, posted on OIAA

Let's discuss online relationships with the Gerneral Service Structure.

I really don't know.

Looks good

A universal OICC sponsor list

Please try to distribute more widely information about this and other of your online town halls and workshops online. They do not seem to be known by many people, given the number of people attending meetings online.

Sharing of practical experiences.

Sponsorship workshop for those who need assistance with sponsorship

Service sponsorship on-line as a topic

Wonderful progress in all OIAA has accomplished for people in recovery.

Maintain a list of willing sponsors/those needing sponsors. Similar to the Key West Group.

Talk about specific details of how online and phone sponsoring is done. It was slightly vague.

It was well covered. Great job!!

Have more frequent townhalls on this issue, sponsorship and security are vital aspects of AA

To include the importance of service sponsorship for online, hybrid and in-person service

Periodic, perhaps quarterly "best practices forums"

More information on how to remotely sponsor folks who may be incarcerated may be helpful

A pamphlet with clear answers on the questions about online sponsorship such as "Questions And Answers on Sponsorship.

request best or most effective sponsor techniques...

Just continue the discussion so we can keep sharing our experiences

Table of Responses to Question 9

Question 9: Please tell us which Online Group Problems & Solutions topics were the most useful to you.

Online Safety: procedures, etiquette, best practices, finding help.

N/A

The idea of a sponsee sign up sheet

Sponsorship

Successes in sponsoring online, overcoming concerns of distance, technology, etc.

Traditions. I found the sponsorship spreadsheet concerning; AA Group pamphlet mentions that we don't keep histories or follow up on "cases".

Sponsorship

Sponsorship

Training for security and safety

They are all good

All

Using a website to encourage sponsorship

The guide of the first speaker but she was too fast

Security

What materials are used for sponsorship with specifics on the time required, the online safety portion

I've only attended this Town Hall today. I learned much from every presentation and share. But not enough people know these exist.

All

Enjoyed safety and sponsorship online agenda

On-line Groups and the Service Structure

Sponsoship & Security

Is listing my online AA group with GSO and OIAA important?

The forms that were shared to facilitate sponsorship.

Online service structure news and developments.

Protecting Zoom Meetings with Safety measures; On-line sponsorship;

Service structure taken online
Security
Online AA and the Service Structure
Can't recall
Everything was helpful.
Could not be present for the first topics but the question and answer sessions were very informative
Sponsorship
Sponsorship. Group safety

Table of Responses to Question 10

Question 10: Please tell us which Online Group Problems & Solutions topics need more attention in a workshop.

Function of an Intergroup/Central Services in an online world.

N/A

I think the more discussion re: the practical details re: what it "looks like" to sponsor someone/work the steps online

Zoom bombers. Some meetings do not control this issue very well still

Having guidelines for on-line groups. Some record to the cloud. I do not want to attend these meetings.

Absolute adherence to AA Traditions; not so much on Group customs.

How to encourage membership to accept both in person and online

How to share more group to group - this is good, but perhaps needs to be supplemented with smaller groups for more in-depth sharing

Commitment to service

How to increase contributions to small on-line meetings

Anonymity

Service structure

Plans for avoiding bombers

The use of Zoom in the name or Family

Nice to hear about group inventories online

Security. Adherence to Traditions. Ways to adapt formats from in-person meetings to online meetings. Ways to make sure members of online meetings are able to fully participate in the US/Canada service structure and be fully informed of service opportunities in prisons, treatment centers, bridge programs, etc. Closing with what seems to be the current schism between "Roomers" and "Zoomers."

Zoom security and ESH on connecting sponsees w sponsors

All

7th Tradition

Sponsorship where sponsor and sponsee can attend together/online

Longer time for tech setup/protecting meeting.

Maybe a tutorial for those wanting to know how to do security procedures. I am willing to help out with this.

Safety; GSR and AA World integration into their structure

Security

The evolution of OIAA to Online International AA to meet the needs of all online international groups

It seems that GSO representation is a topic which could use more discussion

Opportunities for disabled, immunocompromised, hearing impaired to participate in online AA - Online AA and the Service Structure - Listing my online AA Group - Financial questions and "the 7th tradition.

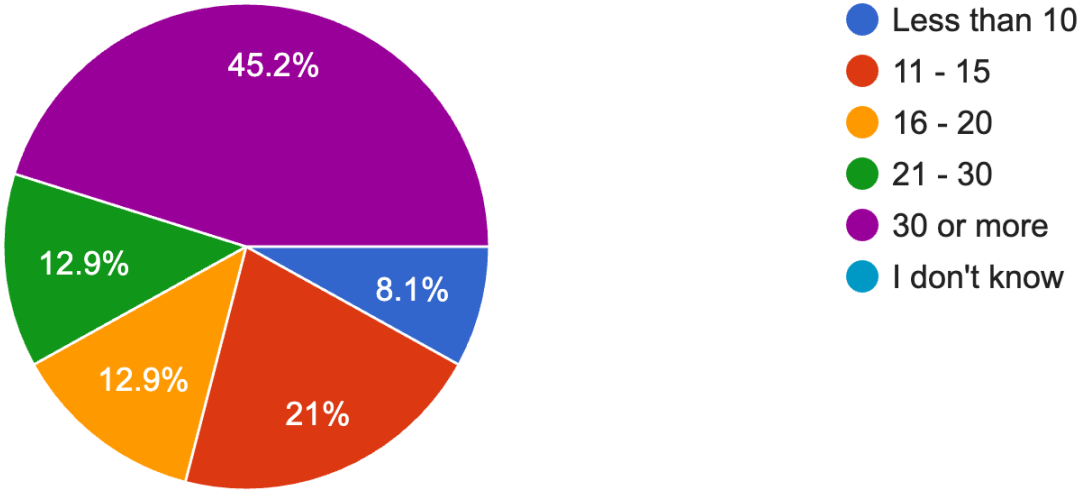
Service Structure. My HG is completely online. We are in the district and area where the meeting geographically originated from. The GSR and Alt. GSR don't live in the same country as the District and Area. The District and Area hold hybrid meetings so they can attend. My HG has a voice! More info about online meetings who are part of the SS.

More education for online groups and their members about the resources and opportunities available to them in participating in General Service with a GSR (and how that is in addition to, not an alternative to, other services such as OIAA!)

Listing online groups in the Meeting Guide App

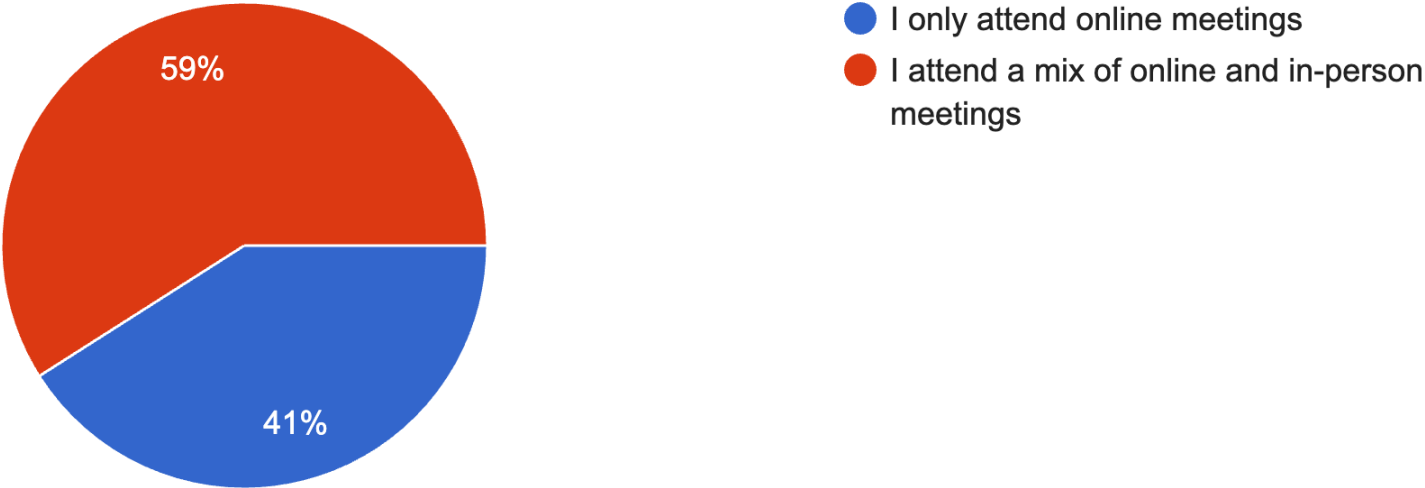
Question 11: How many people regularly attend your group?

62 responses



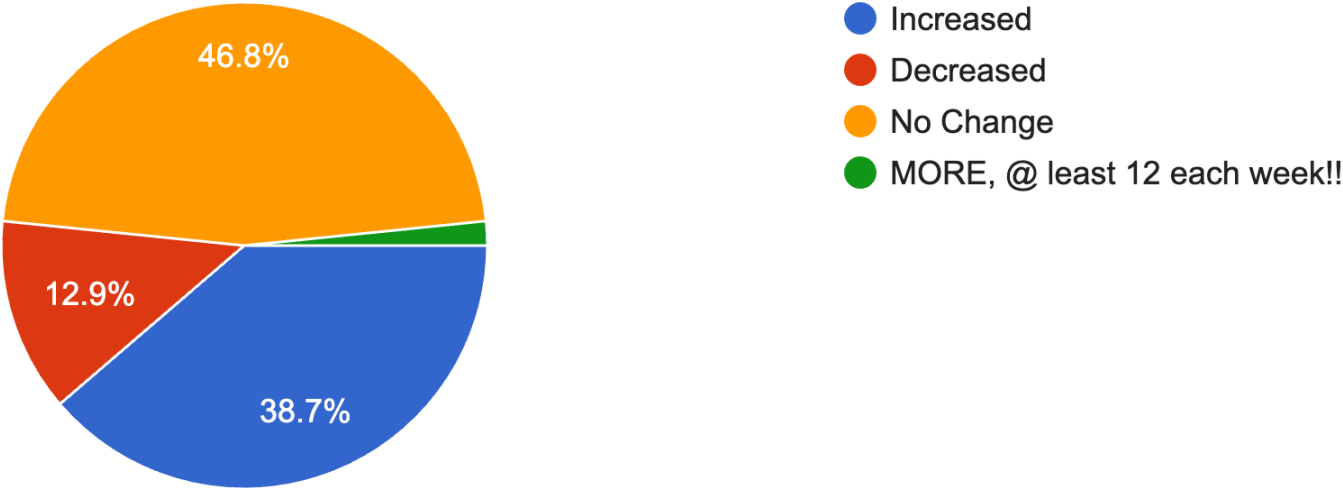
Question 12: Are you attending online meetings exclusively or a mix of online and in-person meetings?

61 responses



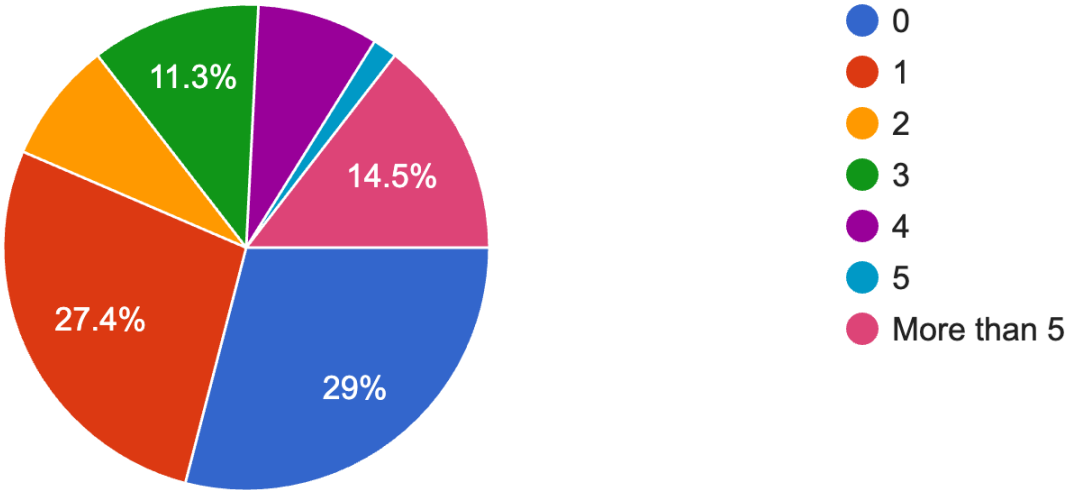
Question 13: Has the number of online meetings you attend increased or decreased in the last year?

62 responses



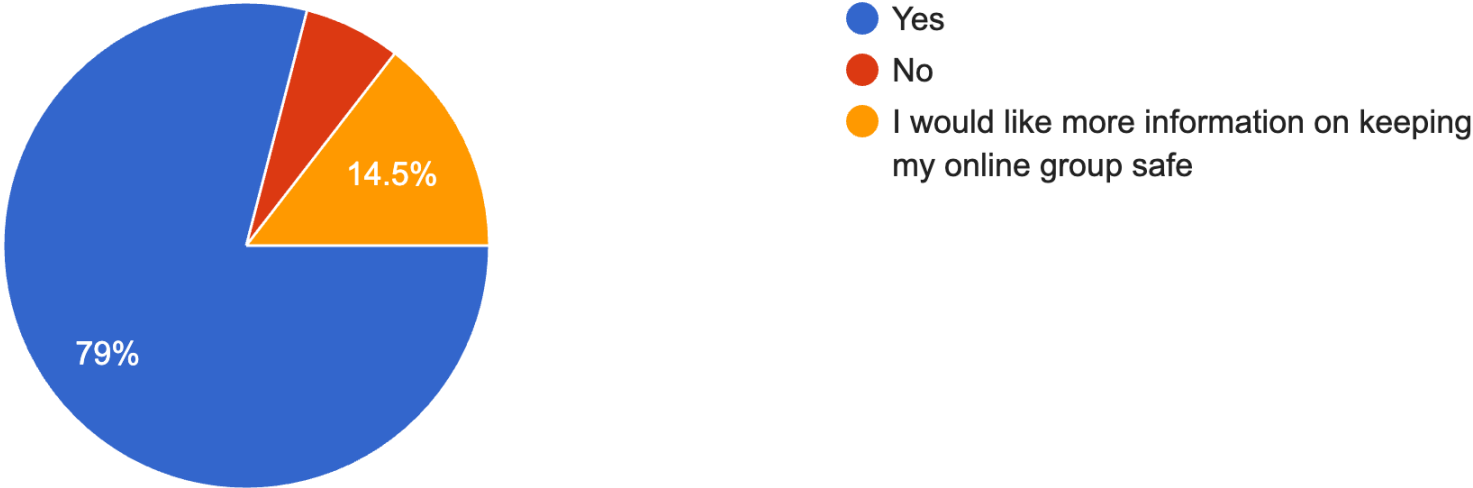
Question 14: How many in-person meetings do you attend each week?

62 responses



Question 15: Does your group know Online Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous (OIAA) has a large number of Online Safety information resources available on its website?

62 responses



Question 16: Is your group listed in the meeting directory of Online Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous (OIAA)

62 responses

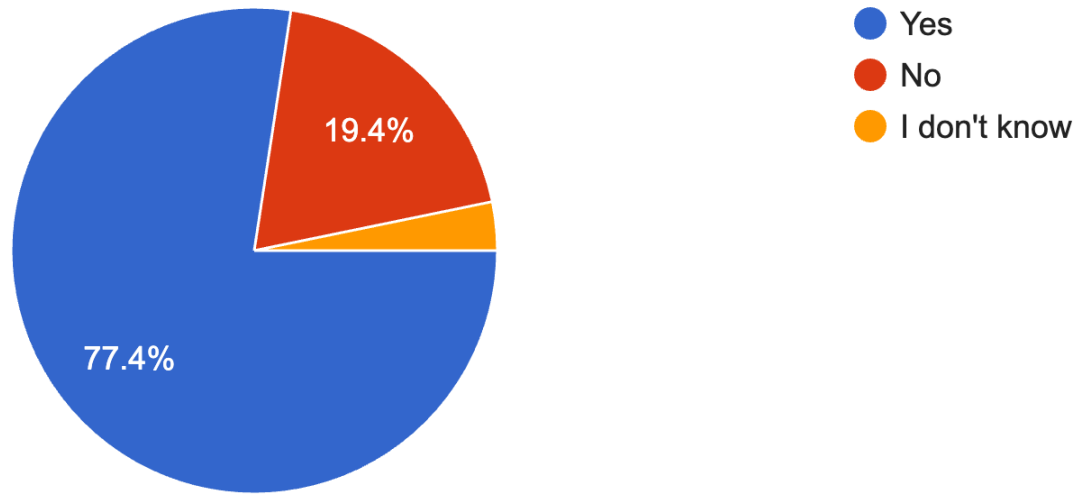


Table of Responses to Question 17

Question 17: If your group is listed in any directory, please tell us which one.	Count
OIAA, Area 72, District 25, and Intergroup listings	1
Modem 2 Modem (F, S, S)	1
OIAA, ATL GSO, AA Meeting Guide	1
Oahu Intergroup	1
AAMeetingOnline.com	1
Southeastern Penna (SEPIA), OIAA	1
GSO, Gay And Sober, OIAA	1
https://coolaa.000webhostapp.com/	1
Meeting guide app	1
Only our own area website.	1
Not sure but will definitely look into it, I am the "keeper" of the ZOOM acct!	1
ESH - email meeting at mylist.net	1
OIAA, Meeting Guide, Broward County Intergroup Website	1
GSO, area, intergroup, online aa	1
Online AA, Area 72, Area 18	1
AA Directory app, and yours I believe.	1
NDIAA Northern Delaware AA Intergroup	1
Oiaa, South East Anglia, London and GB uk	1
aa-intergroup.org	1
Just local google	1
OIAA, GSO, Area 33	1
Our group conscience has ruled that we should not be listed in online directories. I am in the minority.	1
GSO & OIAA	1

Local Intergroup, OIAA	1
OIAA and Southeastern PA Intergroup Association	1
OIAA website directory/my f2f meeting is listed with AA GSO	1
Sober Sunrise is listed on OIAA and our area/district directories	1
The Beginners Book Study Meeting [BBS]	1
GSO list of meetings	1
OIAA and Oahu Intergroup and Meeting Guide	1
OIAA, MAICO, Area 75	1
OIAA	3
aa-intergroup.org	1
GSO, OIAA, District 25	1
OIAA and CT-aa.org (and Meeting Guide)	1
164 and beyond, AA awesome, Boozers in bathrobes	1
Central Ohio Online Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup --> The Meeting Guide App	1

Table of Responses to Question 18

Question 18: If your group is a hybrid meeting, which meeting directories is it listed?	Count
Another group I attend - Local Intergroup only. I am preparing to suggest listing it on OIAA	1
n/a	1
NA	1
N/A	1
N/A	1
N/A	1
NA	1

Table of Responses to Question 19

Question 19: If your group is not listed in a directory and you'd like to tell us why, please write the reason why below.	Count
N/A	1
We were are one time, but we had to stop online directory because of ' bombers'	1
Need to check!	1
We are in directories.	1
Listed	1
Zoom in name for my online and lack of leadership for in person	1
See above, question 17. The group conscience of my current home group, online only, has decided that our group should not be included in any online directories. I am the minority opinion on this issue. Last fall at the request of my home group I researched how other online groups attract newcomers and others, and it was apparent to me that being listed in OIAA was very helpful. My home group disagreed.	1
N/A	1
Group conscience has not approved opening meeting up internationally.	1
N/A	1
By invitation only, no zoom bombers ever, we send out our meeting details in our WhatsApp community.	1
Not Yet	1
N/A	1
We were a just a meeting please, but now we're an online AA group	1
group conscience has voted we decline entering N.Y. Online until we are prepared to better serve a bigger group which might attract more zoom bombers.	1
We are now listed because we created an online intergroup, got it registered with GSO, and connected to The Meeting Guide App	1

Table of Responses to Question 20

Questions 20: The Get Into Action Committee seeks to be a source for all online groups to come together to exchange information and ideas. If you have any topics you would like to suggest to be a part of future Town Halls or workshops, please write them below.

From the closing prayer to the next meeting. what are groups doing outside of meetings that truly make them a group?

Best practices, ideas for online meetings. What works for groups.

Meeting Guide App inclusion

Please ask Billy N., from Florida to come and share on Best Practices with online Groups and the Traditions.

health and wellness in online meetings; attitudes and spirituality of sharing the message; participating in service committee work; safety

CPC, PI Workshops to help "spread the word!"

service sponsorship and encouraging service with sponsees and at group level

if you think I can help you feel free to call me.

Financial Safety

The importance of a home group and getting into service

timer use

Becoming part of the leadership of AA (GSO, etc)

I will come to your meetings and listen.

Where to find members with Tech expertise to serve in the home group as Tech Reps, Tech Liaison, Zoom Hosts, Co Hosts

Growing AA as a whole via OIAA

7th Tradition being collected that keeps us inline with the traditions.

I have noticed, when hopping on "online meetings" that many groups don't have safety measures in place and knowledge of traditions about the group and recovery is limited.

Information about websites like AA.org in other countries

Tech tips and tricks (spotlights, timers, etc)

How to properly set up group bank accounts.

Explain where things are at with building the online service structure, how our groups should get involved, what can we do as individuals to help move this forward.

to widen OIAA field of service to include more online groups around the world together

more about District and Area issues for on line groups

Getting a home group, reasons and responsibilities.

Financial issues such as bank accounts and the 7th tradition, celebrating birthdays, connections and meeting with other groups.

How to improve Hybrid meetings.

Online, email, and brick and mortar meetings. In looking at Tradition Three, the only difference between all types of meetings is their location. Online is a location. My concern is the division that may hurt AA as a whole due to location—the online groups vs. brick and mortar. Online districts and areas may be the best solution for AA as a whole or International districts and areas.

What about the different cultures and diversity seen in an average online meeting? Do online groups, districts, and areas need resources to navigate these topics, or are they outside issues? What an exciting time in AA.

More on opportunities for groups to get involved in virtual service (e.g. bringing virtual meetings to facilities, hosting virtual information sessions for professionals, etc) - I know there was a town hall about this (Service 2.0) but this only scratched the surface for me and I believe this can be an ongoing category of topics of particular help for many to learn about!

I have created a "How to start an online group" document with the permission of our group. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/19OF2VQ9ihmsfjZKen0hPd9CRM3sS1IZT0RQz7xNx9E0/edit?usp=sharing>

Reaching OUT to newcomers.

Questions 21: All speakers for the Get Into Action Committee workshops are volunteers. Please provide your email/contact info if you'd like to review the topics for our next Town Hall or workshop and consider volunteering as a speaker.

Received 11 Volunteers!

Question 22: Please insert your email address in the space for Question 21 and place a checkmark next to each item that you are requesting:

47 responses

