

2024

*Summer
Newsletter*

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
BRIDGING
THE
GAP
TEMPORARY CONTACTS

In Alcoholics Anonymous Treatment and Corrections service, Bridging the Gap programs connect alcoholics leaving Treatment or Correctional facilities with Alcoholics Anonymous in their home communities by providing them with temporary contacts.

Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend events are full weekends focused on sharing our experiences, Bridging the Gap, and developing new ideas that enhance our Service to those requesting temporary contacts.

BTGWW Annual Workshops, Newsletters, and Digital Resource Library are tools that help us learn from each other.

Registration fees ensure BTGWW events remain self-supporting.

This Newsletter is confidential and is for use by members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

2023-2024 BTGWW OFFICERS

Coordinator Laura S.

(612) 309-8385

coordinator@btgww.org

Alt. Coordinator Rob O.

(303) 887-6141

altcoordinator@btgww.org

Non-Rotating Officers

Tech Support Cheri J.

(816) 591-2924

webmaster@btgww.org

Archivist Craig B.

(314) 894-9427

archivist@btgww.org

Only 52 Days until the
BRIDGING THE GAP
WORKSHOP
WEEKEND
2024

September 6-8, 2024

**Register before July 31st
for Discount**

See the flyer in this Newsletter.

or

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.BTGWW.ORG**

IN THIS ISSUE

Hello From GSO

Welcome to Montana

Submitting a Bid

2024 Program Preview

Website TODO List Update

2024 Flyer

Hello From GSO

Alcoholics
Anonymous®
www.aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

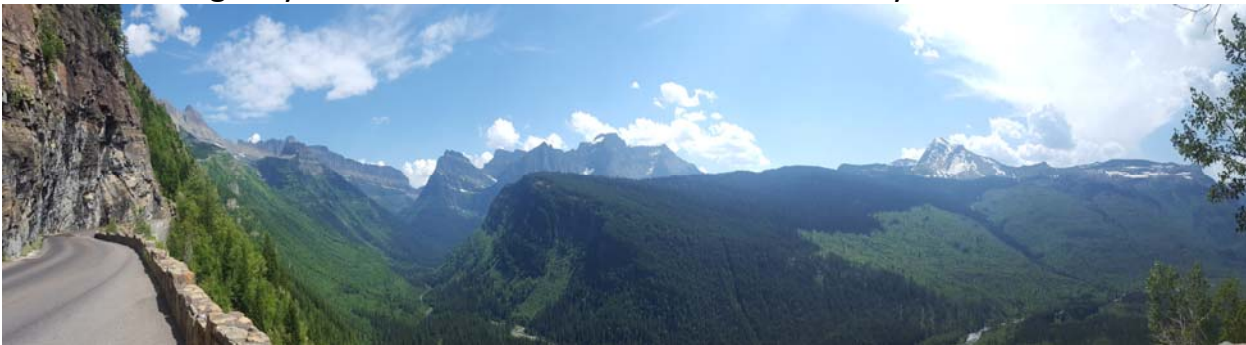
Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

Warm greetings from the General Service Office (GSO) of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) in New York City. My name is Kelley Coyne and I am a GSO staff member and grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous. My current duties include serving the Treatment/ Accessibilities/ Remote Communities desk. This also includes the incredible 12th step work we know as Bridging the Gap! I'm so looking forward to attending the BTG workshop from the 2024 General Service Conference, along with various updated BTG service materials including the new A.A. Guidelines. I have so much to learn from you, our trusted servants, and I will come ready to listen and support. Thank you for extending the hand and I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Kelley C.
GSO Treatment Desk

WELCOME TO AREA 40 - MONTANA

On September 6th- 8th Missoula, Montana will be the site of the Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend this fall. Located in western Montana, Missoula is nestled in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. Offering a serene, big sky landscape you will be surrounded by forests and mountain views. There is a vibrant downtown with a large variety of restaurants, historical sites, shops, and art galleries. The city offers beautiful river walks along the Clark Fork River where you may see kayakers, bikers, and pedestrians on trails, festivals, and fairs. For those more adventurous, you may want to visit the breathtaking Glacier National Park (below) or Yellowstone National Park. There are plenty of vistas on the way. I fell in love with Montana 14 years ago when I visited a graduate school. The landscapes are diverse, the sunsets seem to never end, and there is no mistaking why it has been referenced as God's country.



The Workshop Weekend will have a variety of presenters covering topics of Treatment, Bridging The Gap, and Corrections panels. We have two incredible speakers on Friday night. Both have direct experience with participating in Bridging the Gap and now, in serving to give back. We look forward to the Treatment Chair from the General Service Office as the Saturday night speaker. Our committee has incredible district chairs who have volunteered to serve in leadership positions on our host committee. Our Area Archivist will provide displays for the event and our Area Tech Team will be providing the technical support for the event.

This event has been 5 years in the making for Area 40. We are so happy to have the opportunity to host the Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend this September and I look forward to connecting with you in Missoula, Montana.

In love and service,
Jessica E. W.

Area 40 Bridging the Gap Chair

SUBMITTING A BID

If you are interested in submitting a bid to host a workshop weekend bid packages are available at BTGWW.org - Host Bid Information Form. If you have questions about hosting please feel free to contact any of the BTGWW officers. Our email addresses and phone numbers are listed on the first page and we are all here to help.

2024 PROGRAM PREVIEW

Friday Evening

- Montana Speakers tell their stories of being bridged from facilities to AA
- Who We Are
Self-Introduction of attendees and their interest and what we are looking to learn

Saturday

- Corrections Panel-
Bridging from Correctional Facilities
- Kelly C.
Speaks on the GSO Treatment/Accessibilities/Bridging the Gap Staff position and how Bridging the Gap works at GSO
- Lunch on your own
- Treatment Panel
Bridging from Treatment Facilities
- BTGWW Elections
Positions of Coordinator and Alternate Coordinator for 2025-2026
- Bid Review for 2025 and 2026
- Banquet – BBQ Montana Style
- Speaker –
Kelly C tells her story of recovery and service

Sunday Morning

- Tech Workshop
Tech Tools for Volunteer Contact Coordination
- Good Bye for another year

Registration will open at 3PM Friday – Workshop Starts at 7PM Ends by Noon Sunday

WEBSITE TODO LIST UPDATE

- Make a list
- Re-design to current website styles
- Develop a more user-friendly, responsive menu.
- Develop a more mobile-friendlier map for choosing the release-to Area for contact requests.
- Modify the database to include multiple contact points for each Area, including email addresses for BTG, Treatment, and Corrections Committee Chairs, Area Chairpersons and Area Delegates.
- Add forms for use in updating Area contact information and email addresses.
- Add forms for use in updating Central Office/Intergroup contact information.
- Add forms for use when adding and updating workshop steering committee members.
- Modify online registration for use when including or removing banquet options.
- Automate pricing changes for online registration.
- Automate entering hard-copy snail mail registrations into the database.
- Automate workshop flyer upload.
- Create automated attendance and financial reports.
- Automate bid form upload for future workshops.
- Update email distribution to be compliant with new phishing and spam regulations.
- Redesign digital library for better search and sorting capabilities.
- Automate document upload to digital library.
- Add an online form for submitting locally developed BTG documents to the BTGWW Digital Library.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

2024

BRIDGING

THE

GAP

Workshop
Weekend

TEMPORARY CONTACTS

September 6th - 8th 2024

Fairbridge Inn and Suites
& Big Sky Conference Center
3803 Brooks St, Missoula, MT 59804

Missoula



Hosted by Area 40—Montana

For hotel reservations call Reservations at 1-406-251-2665
Refer to Group **BTGWW** for workshop rate of **\$139 plus tax**

The Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend consists of presentations, discussions, shared experiences, and breakout sessions on BTG topics.

Go to btgww.org for online registration

\$35 Early Bird Registration only

\$40 Registration only **after July 31st**

\$85 Registration & Banquet *Banquet Registrations must be received by August 16th*

Total Submitted: \$ _____

I am interested in purchasing recordings

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Area #: _____

Email: _____

I am willing to give a presentation on the following topic:

Accommodations-Special Needs? _____

Return registration form and check to: BTGWW, 2107 Watson Ave St. Paul MN 55116

Any questions contact Laura S. at (612) 309-8385 or email coordinator@btgww.org