

Supporting Structures in Central and South America

Last September, international structures in Guatemala, Ecuador, and Costa Rica received visits from the Director of Programs, the Associate Director—International Services, and the Trustee who chairs the International Coordination Committee. It was a privilege for us as World Service Office (WSO) Staff and Volunteer to be welcomed by these structures, to meet with their trusted servants and better understand their needs, and to participate in fellowship events.

In Guatemala, trusted servants were keen to understand how our World Service Conference operates. They especially appreciated hearing the firsthand experience of a Trustee. Committee meetings and a fellowship event full of lively sharings on *Healing Within Our Alcoholic Relationships* (P-95) rounded out the visit.

The visit to Ecuador, our second stop, coincided with their 15th anniversary as a General Service Office (GSO), and it was a joy to celebrate this milestone with them. Our WSO team led a workshop on the Traditions, and local members held serious conversations about learning more and building unity together.

Costa Rica was the final stop, and the emphasis there, as requested by their long-established structure, was on the Twelve Concepts of Service. Members from across the country came to a workshop on *When I Got Busy, I Got Better* (P-78). The workshop was followed by joyful dancing and a shared meal.

Throughout these visits, newcomers reminded us of Al-Anon's one vital purpose, and we saw the future of Al-Anon in them. Meeting the pioneers and experiencing their contagious enthusiasm was a privilege. Members generously shared their recovery, their cultures, and their hearts. Eye to eye and heart to heart, these international connections strengthen our shared dream: to grow Al-Anon through service.

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