Homegroup.online (HGOL) reports a development relating to positions initiated across Alcoholics Anonymous Services, Inc. (AAWS) and the General Service Office (GSO) of refusing contributions by groups through the HGOL platform.

As far as we can tell there is no official notice from either AAWS or GSO on this subject. We have not received notice as a central office. Your district or group may have received some notification. It will be important to verify that your GSO contributions are delivered. Take alternative steps to ensure that your group/district contribution is delivered.

HGOL reports that they have had correspondence only with AAWS/GSO attorneys and that on June 26th legal counsel for AAWS confirmed that GSB had stopped depositing checks from HGOL.

The GSO is releasing its own, new contribution platform tomorrow (Oct. 21) allowing groups to directly contribute. The platform includes a statement on contributions which is quoted directly from the new contributions page Welcome to A.A. Contributions :

"The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members.

We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise". **Copyright 2026 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.**

In its defense, HGOL cites that GSO literature confirms that groups are autonomous, separate entities, entitled to a Right of Decision and to establish service offices to help manage shared administrative needs.

From what we can tell, it applies to contributions to the GSO, and not to groups accepting contributions through the platform. We are also assuming that there is no official position taken about groups using HGOL to satisfy other obligations such as rent, coffee, events, etc. However, bee on the lookout as notification may come at some point.

The CDCO, as many of you know, sponsored two online workshops last year in which HGOL made presentations and answered questions from group and district trusted servants. Although we have no direct knowledge of districts and/or groups adopting the service from those workshops, we are aware of groups and districts within NENY Area 48 that utilize HGOL.

The CDCO has never "endorsed" HGOL, although we have considered the platform as valuable tool for groups challenged with opening bank accounts, and finding treasurers who would supply their social security number to the IRS as the responsible party of the Employee Identification Number (EIN). Opening and maintaining banks accounts has always been a challenge, and treasurers are not to mix group contributions with their personal funds. We did feel it was in the interest of groups to understand the HGOL platform; which has existed for over 10 years.

Our efforts sprung from an earlier workshop presented with Area 48 on September 15, 2020; *"The A.A. 7th Tradition in the Digital World"*. That workshop then led to the publishing of a 7th Tradition page on the CDCO website. HGOL did appear to be the easier, softer way of managing monies and treasurers. We are re-publishing that 7th Tradition page beginning today. Keep in mind that there may be dated materials which we probably have to update.