
A Message from your District 36 Corrections Chair

Dear District 36 Members,

I wanted to take a moment to share some updates about the important service work happening at **Echo Glen Children's Center** and how you can be involved in Corrections service work, not just at Echo Glen, but wherever the opportunity might arise in your program.

First, I am excited to announce that the **Women's AA meetings at Echo Glen are now held weekly on Mondays from 5:30–6:30 p.m.** This is a wonderful step forward in carrying the message of recovery to the residents, and I am deeply grateful to all of you who have supported this work, from folks who have and are attending, to those trying to get through the application process and exuding such acceptance at where we are in the process, and even going back two years ago when nothing much was moving forward. So many of you have been a great source of encouragement, kindness, and offered fellowship and program wisdom!

Several of you have been able to attend as one-time guests during the pre-application screening process — thank you! It has been wonderful meeting some of you in person. Your experience, strength, and hope are vital in bringing recovery to Echo Glen, and I hope many more will consider participating in this powerful service opportunity.

Finally, in the past week, I've heard from some that they are receiving emails from Nichelle at Echo Glen. This is GREAT news; it means the volunteer application process is finally moving ahead. I believe even if you have applied previously, the need is that we start the process over.

A Word from Your Corrections Chair

As your Corrections District Chair, I have been **inspired and so grateful** to hear from so many of you in various ways about your interest in Corrections service work. Because I'm an alcoholic, it can be a quick instinct for me to feel restless, irritable, and discontented with how — despite the large amount of interest — I can't get everyone through the application process at the speed I'd prefer, or with all of the immediate answers I'm looking for.

But I'm reminded that this is **God's work, not mine**, and my role is to keep showing up, doing the next right thing, and trusting the process. While I am serving as Corrections Chair, I want every one of you to experience what it's like to **carry the message into Echo Glen and other correctional facilities**. The future of the Echo Glen meetings and volunteer opportunities will remain strong as long as we, as alcoholics, are willing to do the work and allow God's will to guide us.

General Corrections work information – in our District and beyond

Echo Glen Volunteer Applications & Status

The volunteer **application process** is managed directly between applicants and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). I do not have access to any application information, nor would I want to as this is a private exchange between you and the agency.

That said, I am committed to supporting you however I can as District Corrections Chair. My suggestion is that if you have ever, specifically in the recent week, received any correspondence from DCYF / Echo Glen staff about your application, please respond if you are interested in the continuing your application journey. Additionally, here are a few potential resources:

- 1) Have never applied; interested in applying – email corrections@snovalleyaa.org
 - a. I will get you connected to Echo Glen staff, who will provide dates to attend an orientation and guidance
 - b. The ask is that you be available for a 6 month commitment to attend meetings
- 2) Have completed a full application – email dcyf.cwinternsvolunteers@dcyf.wa.gov
- 3) Checking on status of a submitted background check –
 - a. Volunteer roles require a criminal background check via DCYF systems
 - b. For questions about background check processing or status:
 - i. Email: DCYF.BackgroundCheck@dcyf.wa.gov
 - ii. Phone: **1-800-998-3898, option 4**

Works in Progress:

Men's Echo Glen AA regular meeting – I continue to work with Echo to establish a regular Men's meeting! If you would like to help lead that effort, shoot me an email and I can connect you with Echo Glen! I am here to support that work of course as well!

Other Ways to Serve

In addition to on-site service, there are other impactful ways AA members can engage in carrying the message behind the walls:

- **Corrections Correspondence Program:** Write to individuals who are incarcerated and seeking connection in recovery.
- **Pre-Release Program:** Help bridge the gap for those preparing to transition back into the community, connecting them with AA resources.
- **Corrections Committee Member:** Join me in supporting District 36 Corrections service work — bring your ideas, fellowship, and experience to help strengthen our efforts and expand opportunities to carry the message behind the walls!
- **Sponsorship of Echo Glen Residents:** Under the approval of the Echo Glen staff, opportunities to sponsor Residents are available.
- **Western WA Corrections Service opportunities through the Dept. of Corrections (DOC) at adult facilities:** Find everything about applying to the volunteer through the

DOC and other service opportunities at [Area 72 Corrections Committee – Western Washington Area 72](#)

If you are interested in any of these programs, please reach out to corrections@snovalleyaa.org— these are deeply meaningful ways to do service, even if you cannot volunteer in person at Echo Glen.

Thank you all for your service and dedication to carrying the message of recovery where it is so desperately needed. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about any of these opportunities, please don't hesitate to reach out.

In fellowship and service,
Natalie C.
District 36 Corrections Chair