

The 7th Tradition states that every A.R.T.S. Anonymous group ought to be *fully* self-supporting, declining outside contributions. We have no dues or fees, but we do have expenses in maintaining the fellowship through the World Service literature, website and office, which exists to support the groups. Without the financial and service support of the groups and members, A.R.T.S. cannot continue to exist.

In a world of online and teleconference meetings, the question often arises, how to collect monetary contributions to A.R.T.S.? As a physical basket is no longer viable in many cases, 12-Step programs have turned to cash payment services. (*By no means is this intended as an endorsement by A.R.T.S. Anonymous of a specific payment system.*) As meetings are autonomous, World Services can't tell you what to do. However, we can suggest the following:

- 1. Meeting members elect a member to serve as Treasurer (Alternatively, select a trusted member of the group). It is advisable that this member attends the meeting consistently and is trustworthy with money.
- 2. The Treasurer needs to have a bank account. As it is difficult to set up a bank account for a group, the Treasurer is a trusted servant. It might be possible to set up a free account that is not used for other purposes.
- 3. The elected Treasurer sets up a "virtual basket" for members to donate to, using an account with PayPal, Venmo or other direct cash transaction applications. This account is tied to the bank account.
- 4. During meetings, a 7th Tradition announcement is shared, and the Treasurer can post in the chat, or announce over the phone, direction and links for making contributions.
- 5. At the group business meeting, the Treasurer provides a report of how the money was used to support the group (such as for a Zoom account), and any additional money that remains. It's a good idea for the group to keep a "prudent reserve" and then decide what contribution it wants to make in support of A.R.T.S. as a whole.
- 6. The Treasurer makes the contribution either by PayPal or by credit card on the <u>Donate page of the A.R.T.S. website</u>. It is particularly helpful to indicate the name of the group that is making the donation in the notes window.
- 7. Contributions from meetings and groups are announced in the monthly A.R.T.S. Newsletter.

Donations by check are always welcome. Please make checks payable to A.R.T.S. Anonymous and mail to P.O. Box 230175, New York, NY 10023, USA

With gratitude!