

# **Information for Treatment Facilities Committee Volunteers**

To carry the A.A. message effectively, members have formed Treatment Committees. In addition to bringing the message of hope for recovery to alcoholics in a variety of treatment settings, A.A.'ers on Treatment Committees demonstrate to administrators and staff "how it works" and are instruments of attraction to the A.A. program. The active Treatment Committee provides information about A.A., as well as Literature and guidelines for setting up A.A. meetings in treatment facilities and outpatient settings. We carry the A.A. message into treatment facilities. Each committee determines its needs, and then follows through within the treatment structure that exists in their District.

## **Guidelines and Suggestions for Working Within the Treatment Facilities' Rules and Regulations**

The following guidelines for carrying the A.A. message into treatment settings were formulated and suggested by an Area Treatment Committee. Remember, non-A.A. professionals cannot be expected to be aware of A.A.'s Traditions. A.A. members are invited guests in the facilities. Cooperation is the key to successful Twelfth Stepping in treatment facilities.

1. Acquaint yourself with the following A.A. Conference-approved pamphlets: "A.A. Tradition—How It Developed," "A.A. in Treatment Facilities," "Bridging the Gap" and "How A.A. Members Cooperate."
2. Personal appearance is vital. Look as neat and well groomed as possible.
3. Personal conduct is also important while inside these facilities. We are ladies and gentlemen, and our behavior reflects this. Be there on time or five minutes early. Refrain from using any foul language in any group situation. Be polite and respectful to the residents and staff. We are there as their guests.
4. Cooperate with the facility. Although we have our own Traditions which guide us, when we are inside any facility or institution we follow their rules to the letter. The reasons for their rules may not seem clear to us, but it is not up to us to question them. We just cooperate fully.

Some of these guidelines may seem to be strongly stated, and for some very good reasons. In many cases, many months of hard work have gone into establishing the relationship which enables us to be invited into a facility. Careless action on any level by any A.A. member could destroy that trust, and we would no longer be permitted to carry the A.A. message into that facility. When we are carrying the A.A. message into a treatment facility, we are not just one drunk talking to another. In their eyes, we represent the entire Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. How we look, act and talk are all they are going to know about A.A. This is a very important responsibility. Remember, we already know that the A.A. program works. They don't! Let our new friends see, hear and talk to a winner!

# **TREATMENT FACILITIES VOLUNTEER FORM**

Niagara North (District 12)  
&  
Niagara South (District 13)

**NAME:**

**DISTRICT :**

**HOME GROUP:**

**GENDER:**

**AGE:**

**DRY DATE:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

**EMAIL:**