

Guidelines for AA Members bringing meetings into the Treatment Setting

(taken from the Treatment Committee Workbook, M-40i)

1. Personal appearance is vital. Look as neat and well-groomed as possible.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Last but not least, when you make a commitment to be at a treatment facility, **BE THERE!** This is very important.

Suggested Don'ts:

1. Do not recruit clients for the treatment setting.
2. Do not make medical or psychological diagnoses or prognoses.
3. Do not offer spiritual or religious services.
4. Do not engage in education about alcohol.
5. Do Not provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money or any other welfare or social services.
6. Do not provide domestic or vocational counseling.
7. Do not accept any money for services or any contributions

Some of these guidelines may seem to be strongly stated, and for some very good reasons. In many cases, lots 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!