

PI/CPC WORKSHOP
(assembly 2001 – Name deleted from WSO)
List is result of brainstorming session

WHAT DO WE KNOW WORKS?

- Read literature in public
- Alateen in school
- Books in library
- Carry meeting lists
- In health facilities (hospitals, medical schools)
- Write name and phone number on serenity card
- Speak up and share (let people know you're in Al-Anon (HR departments or Employee Assistance programs)
- Share about speaker events
- Advertising on buses, trains, groceries, churches with phone numbers
- Professional Packets to distribute to clergy, counselors, etc.
- Put meeting lists in hotels for travelers
- Write about characters in Al-Anon in short stories, etc.
- Offer rides, etc. to meetings
- Join a nonprofit organization or board dealing with alcoholism
- Write to magazines
- Hold a meeting on the radio (public radio) – taped or live
- Web site
- Panels of AA, Al-Anon and Alateen in rehab facilities or prisons
- Open Al-Anon meetings for professionals
- Person to person; friends, neighbors
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HOW DO WE HELP PEOPLE FIND US?

- Use a “ball of yarn” from entrance of building to actual meeting room/place.
- Use greeters for latecomers
- Provide a comprehensive directory
- Use doorknob hangers on meeting door
- Put meeting lists on web sites
- Post flyers of events on website
- Make up business cards w/meeting schedule on it.
- Use a telephone message server to announce meeting schedules (also provide a way for them to leave a message if they want to)
- Print schedule in a newspaper
- On a telephone server, explain Al-Anon with a list of meetings and a list of contacts phone numbers
- Put meeting lists in newcomer packets

HOW DO WE MAKE IT MORE CONVENIENT?

- Hold meetings in elementary, middle and high schools
- Groups can go to homes of the disabled
- Hold weekend meetings
- Hold newcomer meetings
- TU Meeting ???

- Noon meetings at work
- Restaurant meetings
- AA & Al-Anon meetings together
- Hold at Recovery Institutions
- Hold at all times of the day (6 a.m. through the evening)
- Hold conference call meetings
- Meetings at hospitals, treatment centers and convalescent homes
- Giving rides and meet people at bus stops if they don't want you to go to their home
- Put a card on seats regarding being a friend of Lois when traveling

HOW DO WE MAKE PEOPLE FEEL WELCOME?

- Explain Al-Anon to children
- Encourage Spanish speaking people to attend English speaking meetings and vice versa
- Talk about your home meeting
- Invite newcomers to coffee after the meeting
- Put together a list of multilingual volunteers
- Let dual members know that they don't need to reveal their dual membership
- Human contact – talk to newcomers
- Written welcome to newcomers for chairperson to read
- Announce sponsorship connections
- Watch body language
- Literature
- Temporary sponsors
- Sponsor another meeting – Alateen or other language
- Have a literature rack with other language and Alateen literature in it

HOW DO WE KEEP PEOPLE COMING BACK?

- Be sensitive – don't complain about late comers – remember diverse cultures
- Think about words of prayers or mention about each person having a higher power
- Engage the newcomers to do service
- Emphasize sponsorship – have temporary volunteers
- Newcomers packets
- Chair goes to the newcomer first
- Hold Newcomers meeting before regular Al-Anon meeting
- Be happy!
- Hold Group Diversity Day
- Have a sign-up sheet for those willing to sponsor or take calls
- Pass around the phone/sign-in sheet a second time with a sticky pad (Post-its™) so people can write phone numbers down and keep the sticky.
- Hold child care or make children welcome
- Meeting pays for child care
- Mark your name for the newcomer you speak with on the printed phone list.

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