



Area 75

Alcoholics Anonymous in Southern Wisconsin

Bridging the Gap Volunteers Guidelines

Area 75 Southern Wisconsin Suggested Do's and Don'ts for BTG Volunteers

The Do's

1. DO take the newcomer to a meeting within the first 24-48 hours of release.
2. DO take another member of the fellowship on this Twelve Step Call
3. DO explain to the newcomer that this is a temporary commitment, usually limited to six visits. This is important so the BTG Volunteer can help the next newcomer.
4. DO make sure the newcomer receives Meeting Schedules, Telephone Numbers, Literature and their own Big Book.
5. DO encourage them to attend meetings as often as possible, emphasizing the importance of a home group.
6. DO explain the importance of sponsorship, share how you got yours.
7. DO refrain from using profanity, unrelated and off-color jokes, prolong monologues of drunk stories and other types of self indulgence.
8. DO respect full anonymity of the newcomer at all times.
9. DO keep in touch with your sponsor and your Higher Power.

The Don'ts

1. DO NOT forget the importance of the newcomer's first meeting within 24-48 hours of release
2. DO NOT become responsible for the newcomer's attitude or actions in or out of the meetings.
3. DO NOT become a personal taxi service.
4. DO NOT let the newcomer dictate where to go to meetings.
5. DO NOT allow emotional or romantic relationship to develop.
6. DO NOT act in any reporting or communicating capacity regarding the newcomer and the justice system or treatment facilities.
7. DO NOT intercede in behalf of any individual affected by decisions of the administration.
8. DO NOT forget you are not in control, you are not GOD.

What AA and BTG DOES:



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1. Helps people with a desire to stop drinking to find a solution to their problems.

What AA and BTG DOES NOT DO:

1. Furnish initial motivation
2. Solicit members.
3. Charge dues or fees
4. Operate clinics or drying-out facilities.
5. Operate Clubs
6. Provide housing, meals or transportation.
7. Keep membership records.
8. Follow-up on errant members.
9. Controls its members.
10. Hold classes.
11. Practice medicine, psychiatry or nursing.
12. Offer religious services.
13. Offer professional counseling.
14. Accept money from non-members.
15. Do research.
16. Join councils or social agencies.
17. Loan money.