

# AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HUMAN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL



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Dear Friend,

As a member of the helping profession, you come into contact with individuals who have complex problems and needs. It is possible many may be suffering from the disease of alcoholism-someone else's alcoholism. Family members, regardless of their age, usually blame themselves for the turmoil in their lives, often making excuses for problems, while unaware of how the disease affects them. The fact is, alcoholism affects family members from generation to generation unless the pattern is interrupted.

If you know or suspect that a problem drinker is affecting your client, we urge you to recommend Al-Anon or Alateen as part of your treatment plan. Al-Anon, a mutual support fellowship where members share their experience, strength and hope, offers a program of recovery for the relatives and friends of alcoholics. Alateen is for teenagers affected by someone else's drinking. Meetings are held at no cost in your locality and no appointments are necessary.

Enclosed is literature which will help to familiarize you with Al-Anon's and Alateen's role as a community resource. If you wish further information please call \_\_\_\_\_ or 888-4AL-ANON, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM, ET.

Sincerely yours,