

"Sponsor a Professional"

Why:

One of the best ways for Al-Anon and Alateen to attract members is to let people know who we are, what we do, and how and where to find us. Many Al-Anon members contact their doctor, clergyman, lawyer, or psychologist long before they come to Al-Anon. Through our cooperation with the professional community; family members may find Al-Anon sooner.

Who:

Any experienced and willing Al-Anon/Alateen member or group with a desire to spread the message of hope to professionals.

What:

It simply means making a personal or group commitment to inform one doctor, social worker, clergy, teacher, lawyer, etc. about Al-Anon. This can be done by visiting a professional at his or her office to give a brief explanation of the program, accompanying a professional to an open meeting, providing literature and information on making appropriate referrals, or even supplying past copies of *The Forum* along with Al-Anon's local contact number.

Suggestions:

- △ Be familiar with our traditions, especially the sixth and eleventh,
- △ Acquaint yourself with updated literature and meeting list.
- △ Be prepared - not all professionals think alcoholism is a disease.
- △ Be on time and don't stay longer than agreed upon.
- △ Use Al-Anon terminology.
- △ Be gentle and understanding - we're there to inform, not to convince.
- △ Keep a positive attitude.
- △ Be open to requests. Listen to problems they may have or have had with Al-Anon and Alateen.
- △ If you don't know the answer -when asked a question concerning Al-Anon, say so. Gather the information and get back to the person as soon as possible-
- △ Leave your name and phone number typed or clearly printed on an index card than a piece of paper, that can be lost easily. (Rolodex card available from WSO M-46)