

Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

- The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.
- Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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Many organizations—corporations, unions and governmental agencies—have established programs to work with employees whose personal problems have affected their job performance and their families.

Labor and management are increasingly aware of the disease of alcoholism and its high financial and human costs, and recognize the benefits of helping their employees.

To employers, supervisors and personnel professionals

Alcoholics Anonymous can make available to labor, management, medical, social services, human resources and employee assistance program professionals the cumulative experience of more than two million recovered alcoholics now living comfortable and productive lives without alcohol. A.A. is available in virtually every community with more than 59,000 groups in the United States and Canada alone.

A.A. can help organizations contact men and women who have achieved sobriety, and are willing to share their experience freely with anyone who seeks help.

The A.A. Fellowship is nonprofessional and available at no cost; its primary purpose is the person-

al recovery and continued sobriety of those alcoholics who turn to it for help. The A.A. approach is based on the ability of recovered alcoholics to help those who are still drinking.

Singleness of purpose and problems other than alcohol

Alcoholism and drug addiction are often referred to as "substance abuse" or "chemical dependency." Alcoholics and nonalcoholics are, therefore, sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. meetings. Anyone may attend *open* A.A. meetings. But only those with a *drinking* problem may attend *closed* meetings or become A.A. members. People with problems other than alcoholism are eligible for A.A. membership *only* if they have a drinking problem.

To co-workers

If you have a co-worker who may be a problem drinker, your understanding of the nature of the problem can play a vital part in helping the alcoholic to achieve and maintain sobriety.

You can take some action to assist in recovery by developing an understanding of the A.A. program.* You may want to speak with an A.A. member or read some A.A. literature, which explains our program of recovery and gives a general idea of how A.A. works.

*You may also write or phone Al-Anon Family Groups. Though it is entirely separate from Alcoholics Anonymous, it uses the general principles of the A.A. program as a guide for husbands, wives, relatives, friends, and others close to alcoholics.

A.A. welcomes any opportunity to:

1. Meet with any employer to discuss ways A.A. can cooperate.
2. Conduct employee meetings to explain the A.A. program of recovery.
3. Take employees with a drinking problem to A.A. meetings.

How to contact A.A.

A.A. or Alcoholics Anonymous is listed in most telephone directories. If A.A. is not listed, please write to the General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. G.S.O.'s A.A. Web Site: www.aa.org

Some pamphlets which may be of interest

- THIS IS A.A.
- 14 QUESTIONS
- IS A.A. FOR YOU?
- YOUNG PEOPLE AND A.A.
- A.A. FOR THE WOMAN
- CAN A.A. HELP ME TOO?
- BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICANS
SHARE THEIR STORIES
- A.A. FOR THE OLDER ALCOHOLIC—
NEVER TOO LATE
- THE A.A. MEMBER - MEDICATIONS
AND OTHER DRUGS
- DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DIFFERENT?
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON
SPONSORSHIP
- IS THERE AN ALCOHOLIC IN YOUR LIFE?
PROBLEMS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL
- WHAT HAPPENED TO JOE
- IT HAPPENED TO ALICE
- IF YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL
- HOW A.A. MEMBERS COOPERATE
- A.A. IN YOUR COMMUNITY
- A MEMBER'S-EYE VIEW OF
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
- UNDERSTANDING ANONYMITY

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