



Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups

Together We Share Strength and Hope

Al-Anon Southwest Michigan www.SWMichiganAl-Anon.org p Al-Anon Family Groups World Service Office www.Al-Anon.org

An Open Letter To Spiritual Leaders

Dear Spiritual Leader,

You are often among the first in the community to learn that a problem in a family may be the result of someone's drinking. Alcoholism is not simply an issue of excessive drinking; it is a disease that affects the drinker as well as the family and friends, and the effect can manifest itself spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically.

Al-Anon Family Groups, which include Alateen for the younger members, is a well-established community resource for people who have been affected by someone else's drinking. Al-Anon consists of nonprofessional mutual support groups in which the identity of all members is protected.

Al-Anon is a spiritual program of recovery that is compatible with all religious beliefs and practices. The Al-Anon and Alateen program can aid the recovery process for the entire family through hope, comfort, and loving interchange among members having a common problem.

When someone turns to you for help and an alcohol-related problem is identified, we urge you to suggest that they attend Al-Anon and/or Alateen meetings. Al-Anon can help.

How Else Can You Help?

- Visit the Al-Anon and Alateen World Service Office website at www.al-anon.org. Al-Anon Family Groups offer a variety of resources for professionals.
- Visit our local website at www.SWMichiganAl-Anon.org, or call our Al-Anon 24-hour answering service at 269-993-0589 to find where local meetings are occurring. At meetings, people can find understanding and support that would complement and reinforce your professional recommendations.
- Place in your newsletter and/or weekly service bulletin a small informational notice about Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups. **You could include the basic premise of the organization: A place where people come together and share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems. For meeting information in the area visit: www.SWMichiganAl-Anon.org or call the 24-hour Al-Anon answering service at 269-993-0589.**

If you or your ministerial staff would like additional information please visit the local website above, call our answering service at 269-993-0598 to leave a private message. An Al-Anon member will return your call. You may also email us at SWMichiganAlAnon@gmail.com. We hope you will find opportunities in your place of worship to help your parishioners by suggesting the Al-Anon and Alateen Family Group.

Thank you, Southwest Michigan Area Al-Anon and Alateen Public Outreach Committee

Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups: Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen are fellowships of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems.

For information or meetings in Southwest Michigan, visit www.SWMichiganAl-Anon.org, call a 24-hour Al-Anon answering service at 269-993-0589, email SWMichiganAlAnon@gmail.com or write Al-Anon, c/o Kalamazoo Alano Club, 933 S. Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001.