



Al-Anon and Alateen Family Groups

Together We Share Strength and Hope

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

An Open Letter to an Attorney

Dear Counselor,

Alcoholism is a disease that is widespread, debilitating and usually hidden. Often it manifests in severe consequences for family members. We at Al-Anon and Alateen want to reach out to families and friends of alcoholics who need help. Many times neither the family nor the alcoholic can see the correlation between the drinking and family's problems.

When clients come to you for questions and concerns about divorce, restraining orders, or help with delinquent children you become their counselor in many aspects of their lives. If you suspect your client is, or has been, affected by another's alcoholism, we suggest you or your client contact Al-Anon Family Groups. Many families have taken initial steps towards recovery through their attorney's recommendation to contact Al-Anon and Alateen. Alateen, a part of Al-Anon, is for young people who are equally affected by an alcoholic.

We recognize that you are in a unique position to refer your clients to Al-Anon and Alateen Family groups. We are most grateful for your professional awareness and understanding of our program.

How Else Can You Help?

- Visit the Al-Anon and Alateen World Service Office website at www.al-anon.org. Al-Anon Family Groups have a variety of resources designed to assist professionals.
- Suggest to your clients that they visit our local Al-Anon and Alateen website at www.SWMichiganAl-Anon.org for a schedule of local meetings, or they may call the 24-Hour Al-Anon answering service at 269-993-0589 and leave a private message.
- If you or your staff would like additional information please visit our above mentioned website, or email us at SWMichiganAlAnon@gmail.com, or call our answering service at 269-993-0589 to leave a private message. An Al-Anon member will return your call.

We hope you will find opportunities in your practice to help your clients by suggesting our Al-Anon and Alateen Family groups.

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