

DISTRICT 12 TREATMENT FACILITY MEETING FORMAT

Prior to start of meeting, request volunteers to read “How It Works” and “The Twelve Traditions”. Please write down volunteers’ names as you will be addressing them by name during the meeting.

Hello, my name is _____ and I am an alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Announce: “I would like to open this meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.”

Serenity Prayer – “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. All are welcome, especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our third Tradition which states that “the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking” we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems and solutions with alcoholism.

Ask: “Is there anyone here for their first A.A. meeting?” Greet any of those new to A.A.

Read Preamble:

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 AA membership; we are self supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposed any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

Out of respect to the readers or speakers, please refrain from chanting during the readings or applauding after speakers.

Read How It Works: “_____ will now read “How It Works” from Chapter 5 of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Read the Traditions: “_____ will now read “The Twelve Traditions.”

Announce: “In order to allow as many people as possible to share, please limit your comments to the topic being presented from the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* and speak three minutes or less.”

Introduce Meeting Leader: *Meeting Leader is responsible for selecting a topic from the first 164 pages of the Big Book. About 10 minutes before the hour, the Meeting Leader should announce that we are out of time and turn the meeting back over to the Chairperson.*

At the end of the meeting, ask: “Are there any AA related announcements?”

Read the following:

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions. The things that you hear here and share here are spoken and shared in confidence. Let them be treated as confidential. What you hear here, let it stay here.”

“I am responsible...When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that --- I am responsible.”

Announce: Let's close the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.