

Suggested Treatment Facility Meeting Format

Welcome:

"Hello everyone, my name is _____, and I am an alcoholic. Welcome the (Day of the Week) Open Speaker meeting here at (Name of Treatment Facility). Let's open the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the 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.*

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, 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 to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

How It Works:

"The essence of our program is contained in the first portion of Chapter 5 in the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Today I have asked _____ to read "How It Works."
"And I've asked _____ to read the Tradition of the month"

"Our 5th Tradition states that: 'Each AA Group has but one primary purpose – to carry *its* message to the alcoholic who still suffers.' This is an Open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, which means that anyone can attend. In keeping with our 3rd Tradition and A.A.s 'Singleness of Purpose' we will confine our discussions to the disease of alcoholism and the solution we have found to our drinking problem."

Meeting Format:

"The format tonight is a speaker meeting. Each speaker will share for 15-20 minutes. The last portion of the meeting is devoted to questions and answers. We ask that you not engage in conversation during the speaker portion. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment, please wait until the question-and-answer period."

Q and A:

"Now the members of Alcoholics Anonymous would like to answer any questions you may have about how they applied the program of Alcoholics Anonymous in their lives. We will now open it up to questions."

Closing:

"We'd like to thank you for attending this meeting and allowing us to be of service. For those who would like to join us, we will close with 'The Lord's Prayer'."

