

What should a newcomer expect from a sponsor?

~A newcomer should expect their sponsor to guide them through the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous

~An AA sponsor helps the newcomer to find a solution to staying sober through their experience and guidance from AA approved literature and the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

May a newcomer have more than one sponsor?

Omit the second paragraph

~Add- Shares their experience with going through the 12 steps with the newcomer

~Add- Uses AA approved literature to guide the newcomer through the 12 steps

~Omit- Never takes the newcomer's inventory except when asked

~Introduces the newcomer to other members, particularly to those who may share the new person's occupational or social interest

Change- Introduces the newcomer to other members of A.A.

~Urges the newcomer to join in group activities as soon as possible

Change- Urges the newcomer to get involved in a home-group and service related activities

~Does not hesitate to help the newcomer obtain professional help (such as medical, legal, vocational) if assistance outside the scope of AA is needed

Change- Does not have an opinion if the newcomer gets involved in professional help outside of AA

How can a sponsor explain the AA program?

Omit- Experience shows that the newcomer usually cannot absorb the entire AA program in the first few months. Certainly, "little steps for tiny feet" applies here.

Page 17

Should a sponsor recommend hospitalization?

Omit-(from 50% to 75% surveys indicate

Omit-But many of us recovered, even though we were in bad physical condition when we came in, without going to a hospital or drying-out spot. For some, hospitalization is essential-but not for everyone

Omit-In some areas arrangements have been made for hospitals to set aside space for patients admitted through an AA central or intergroup office. In other areas, individuals familiar with the A.A. program have opened rest homes or farms.

How can a sponsor work with an alcoholic family?

Omit- The sponsor can explain the AA program to a wife, husband, or relative, and point out that most members have found it easier to live a life without alcohol when their relatives took an interest in AA, became familiar with AA literature, and attended open meetings of a local group. The family can be told that the alcoholic needs sympathy and understanding, particularly during the first days of sobriety- but it is not entitled to be babied or pampered simply because he or she is living normally for perhaps the first time in adult life. Nor should the alcoholic be treated as a hero or heroine for not drinking. In general, the sponsor can help the alcoholic's family give the newcomer every chance to make good in AA and can urge the family not to expect too much, too soon, from the recovering alcoholic.

~Add- An AA sponsor should be willing to answer the alcoholics family members questions regarding the AA program and fellowship

Omit -However, many threatened in such situations. However, many threatened marriages have been saved once the primary problem of alcoholism has been brought under control, and the sponsor can point this out