



ACCOMPANY A  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
TO A MEETING

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

Area 30 – Eastern Massachusetts  
Cooperation with the Professional Community  
P.O. Box 51411  
Boston, MA 02205-1411

**[cpc@aaemass.org](mailto:cpc@aaemass.org)**

# ACCOMPANY A PROFESSIONAL TO A MEETING

*The Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) committee's **"Accompany a Professional"** program allows professionals and students to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings with AA members. Since professionals are in a unique position to communicate with many potential alcoholics, CPC's aim is to inform them about AA so that they may point those who need help in our direction. This initiative is designed to let professionals know what AA is and what AA is not. Professionals and students will be able to share the experience of a meeting and have their questions about Alcoholics Anonymous answered by an AA member. Assisting professionals gives them insight to help the alcoholic who is still suffering.*



### **What you need...**

- It is suggested that volunteers have at least 1 year of sobriety.
- The volunteer should be familiar with the basic AA literature that is often provided to professionals such as:
  - *If You are a Professional....(P-46),*
  - *AA Membership Survey (P-48)*
  - *AA as a Resource to the Health Care Professional (P-23)*
- Volunteers should ideally have an understanding of our 12 Steps and 12 Traditions or know where to go for answers. Otherwise, should you wish to express a personal opinion, make it clear that you do not speak for AA as a whole.
- The volunteer should remember that he or she is representing AA as a whole. For information on how to talk with individuals that are not AA members please read the pamphlets:
  - *Speaking at Non AA meeting (P-40)*
  - *Information on AA: For Anyone New Coming to A.A. for Anyone Referring People to A.A (F-2),*
  - *AA at a Glance (F-1).*



**Area 30 CPC** is creating a list of those who would like to participate in this service. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact us at:

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

Area 30 – Eastern Massachusetts  
Cooperation with the Professional Community  
P.O. Box 51411  
Boston, MA 02205-1411

or email:

**[cpc@aaemass.org](mailto:cpc@aaemass.org)**

We invite you to attend the monthly CPC meeting to learn about other services we offer the professional community (7 pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at Boston Central Service).

**Some AA History**

*AA has been cooperating with professionals right from the very start...*

In 1935, Bill W. found himself under the care of Dr. William D. Silkworth in Towns Hospital. The doctor supported Bill's efforts in recovery and later wrote the letter that opens our text, in the chapter *The Doctor's Opinion*. This letter, to a large extent endorsed our fellowship and later more professionals supported the growth of our fellowship.

# ACCOMPANY A PROFESSIONAL TO A MEETING

## **INFORMATION ON CPC**

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) was founded in 1971 as an effort to reach out to alcoholics by cooperating with professionals that work with them. In the early days of Alcoholics Anonymous many professionals beginning with Dr. Silkworth (writer of the Doctor's Opinion) and clergy members developed a supportive stance toward AA.

CPC's purpose is to help the alcoholic that still suffers by providing information to professionals that are likely to come in contact with alcoholics or potential alcoholics. Some of these professionals are doctors, nurses, therapists, union leaders and those studying to become professional.

**Although we have a committee that specializes in this work, every AA member is free to do the same. We offer some guidelines which have been effective in communicating with professionals.**



## **MEMBERSHIP FACTS**

According to the 2004 AA Membership Survey professionals helped us get here. AA members were referred by:

Treatment Facility	31%
Court Order	11%
Counseling Agency	8%
Health Care Provider	8%
Correctional Facility	2%
Employers	5%
Member of Clergy	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66%</b>

*“Therefore, I would like to make a pledge to the whole medical fraternity that AA will always stand ready to cooperate, that AA will never trespass upon medicine, that our members who feel the call will increasingly help in those great enterprises in education, rehabilitation, and research which are now going forward with such promise.”*

– Bill W. April 28, 1958  
(Speaking to the New York  
Medical Society on Alcoholism)