

There is no replacement for individual Al-Anon members carrying the spiritual message of recovery within their communities in ways that media cannot.

Al-Anon Information Services (AISs) or Intergroups

In keeping with Traditions Four, Six, Eight, and Nine, an entire Area, or Districts or groups that have the support of their Area or international structure, may agree to establish a registered Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) or Intergroup. In keeping with Tradition Seven, the AIS or Intergroup operations are sustained by the groups, Districts, or Area which it serves. (See the guideline *Al-Anon Information Services [AIS] [G-4]* and the “Al-Anon Information Service [AIS/Intergroups]” section of this *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* for information on being or registering as an AIS.)

Local Public Outreach: Roles and Responsibilities

Al-Anon members who have an understanding of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions have an important role in local public outreach. They carry the message of hope through local media and to professionals throughout their communities.

Providing speakers and literature for community events, participating and exhibiting at health fairs, placing ads in public places, and talking with local radio and TV stations to request that they play public service announcements are some local outreach opportunities. (See also “Public Outreach”: “Radio, Films, TV, and the Internet”: “Members Continually Broaden the Way They Carry the Message by Using New and Innovative Forms of Communication.”)

Making Contact with Professionals

To ensure that professionals are aware of Al-Anon as a credible resource for helping friends and families of alcoholics, groups, Districts, and other service arms can host public meetings, inviting members of the professional community. Meeting schedules and contact information on the websites of Area and local service arms should contain current and accurate information. In this way, the public will have direct and ready access to information, furthering Al-Anon/Alateen’s reputation as a credible local resource.

Personal sharing with professionals is one way to carry the message of hope to others. Members may have established relationships with doctors, nurses, members of the clergy, therapists, educators, or other professionals. Every Al-Anon member is encouraged to share the benefits of Al-Anon with members of the professional community with whom they come into contact, divulging their Al-Anon membership whenever they are comfortable doing so. These one-on-one relationships provide the professional with credible evidence of the benefits of Al-Anon’s program of recovery and may encourage them to learn more about Al-Anon and perhaps recommend the Al-Anon program to others. Al-Anon does not endorse any outside enterprise. Professionals may endorse the Al-Anon program without violating the Traditions, provided that they do not reveal Al-Anon membership.