

# Cooperation with the Professional Community

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Jane S. February 5, 2023

- The Conference C.P.C. Committee was established in 1971
- CPC Committees carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholics by informing professionals what we are and where we are

## The CPC Committee's focus is on:

- Establishing better communication with professionals who work with alcoholics
- Find simple and effective ways of cooperating without affiliating
- Explain clearly what AA does and does not do

Boots on the ground locally is where the work is  
done best!

- Each CPC representative works with their *district* to create a local committee
- Smaller Districts can partner with adjoining districts
- These committees carry the AA message to *local professionals such as mental health providers, clergy, social workers, Home Healthcare Nurses, physicians and many more*
- *These committees provide information*

*such as pamphlets , meetings lists, Newsletter for Professionals, videos, and other AA literature*

- *Committees can also organize workshops, information sessions and on site literature displays*

# Take advantage of Resources

- The CPC Workbook and Kit are available from [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)
- Schedule learning meetings with committee members to look at the materials together
- Use the information already prepared by CPC Chairs at the [area83aa.org](http://area83aa.org) website
- Attend CPC Committee meetings in other areas to gather ideas

# Anonymity in CPC Work

Alcoholics Anonymous is NOT an anonymous organization . It's members ARE.

- Information about AA such as websites, phone numbers and locations of meetings and intergroup offices should be known publicly
- The purpose of CPC work is to share the public about what we do and how to reach us
- In CPC work it may be necessary to disclose our first and last names when doing presentations, this is not considered an anonymity break at the level of media
- If one is not comfortable with this, perhaps CPC is not for them



alcoholic, or a concerned friend or relative, who hears about A.A. will know that we offer a solution to alcoholism. The general sense is that A.A. members remain anonymous at the public level involving

#### Anonymity at the Public Level

based upon the principle of attraction rather than promotion.” In the pamphlet “A.A. Tradition: How It Developed” (page 41), he stated: “We ought not disclose ourselves to the general public through

#### Anonymity at the Personal Level

from identification as alcoholics, something newcomers may particularly desire. However, in doing C.P.C. or P.I. service work — such as giving presentations to those in a professional field — an A.A. member

#### Anonymity

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as an A.A. member, you are uncomfortable with this, then perhaps another form of service might be a better fit for you.

#### Anonymity at the Group Level and

#### Open A.A. Meetings as an Informational Tool

attend as observers. If this is the case, it is a good idea for the C.P.C. committee member to have a conversation before the A.A. meeting explaining the principle of personal and public anonymity with

regarding C.P.C. work: “In all public relationships, A.A.’s sole objective is to help still-suffering alcoholics. Always mindful of the importance of personal anonymity, we believe this can be done by making it

learning to live without alcohol.

“We believe that our experience should be made available freely to all who express

we believe further that all our efforts in this field should always reflect our gratitude for the gift of sobriety and our awareness that many outside of A.A. are equally concerned with the serious problem

The 23rd General Service Conference (1973) reaffirmed that “the furnishing of information about Alcoholics Anonymous to professional societies is not in violation of the Traditions.”

#### How to Handle Anonymity as a Practical Matter

often frequently gain access to professional events and are sometimes asked to supply identification. This is not an anonymity break at a public level — you are simply following the rules of the particular field

name badge can read either “A.A. Volunteer” or “Sally — A.A. Volunteer,” without any last names being used. The same holds true when C.P.C. committees give presentations on A.A. to professionals — or

to clarify the A.A. Tradition of Anonymity with those arranging the meeting at which you are speaking, especially if you think a report of the meeting might be published, disseminated via social media

#### Anonymity Resources

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions share some of the history of the development of C.P.C. and Public Information activities, as well as information on an

Other sources to be found at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) include the pamphlets “Understanding 10

“Anonymity” (P-47), “Problems Other Than Alcohol” (P-35) and “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings” (P-40). A.A. Guidelines can be found on the Internet, as well as the “Anonymity Resource Page” at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

we think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principles

— Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 192



- Stay in touch with your committee
- Prepare an email list
- Use google drive or dropbox to store letters and presentations
- Hold regular committee meetings which are topic specific and the minutes
- Have one or two focused projects at a time
- Talk it up in business meetings
- Educate members about CPC work
- Be enthusiastic
- Create local specific flyers/postcards with information for professionals with QR codes to specific pamphlets and meetings

- Include links to the Stanford University study.
- (<https://tinyurl.com/Cochrane12>)
- Offer open meetings as a way of learning
- Offer presentations to office staff
- Find out what your budget is and use it wisely

AMERICAN COUNSELLORS ASSOCIATION





**TRI-COUNTY  
INTERGROUP**

Local AA office and book store



# FIND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



UNITY SERVICE RECOVERY



Download the **Meeting Guide App**  
to find a local or a virtual meeting



Find local information and meetings  
at **RaleighAA.com**



Find free AA information and literature  
(Big Book, 12 Steps & 12 Traditions,  
Pamphlets) at **AA.org**



24/7 Helpline: **(919) 783-6144**



**IF YOU WANT TO DRINK, THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS;  
IF YOU WANT TO STOP, WE CAN HELP.**

Thank you for listening!

Jane S.

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