A.A. Corrections Contact Form

Name: _____

Sex: ❑ M ❑ F

Address: _____

_____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Nighttime Phone: _____

Home Group: _____

Location: _____

Please mail to:

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www.aa.org.

F-162 12M - 7/12 (Intra)

Remember that:

- It is important that former inmates attend their first A.A. meeting as soon as they are released.
- Our primary purpose is to carry the A.A. message.
- You are not responsible for the member's attitude or actions in or out of meetings.
- It is suggested that you do not loan money or anything of value, or become a personal taxi service.
- Introduce the former inmate to other A.A. members, just as you would any newcomer.
- We are not to act in any reporting or communication capacity regarding the A.A. member and the justice system.

Suggested Reading

"Carrying the Message into Correctional Facilities"

"Where Do I Go From Here?"

A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate

"A.A. in Correctional Facilities"

"It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell"

"Memo to an Inmate Who May be an Alcoholic"

"A Message to Corrections Administrators"

SERVICE

For AAs on the OUTSIDE

A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Information

Connecting Inside A.A. Members To the Outside A.A. Community

Dear A.A. member,

The A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Program connects the A.A. member being released from prison with Alcoholics Anonymous in their community.

When the soon-to-be-released A.A. inmate writes us, we match that person to a Prerelease Contact in their community. If you are interested in this form of service, we will call you, get the okay, and then send you the name of a contact.

Many A.A.s involved in this service stress the importance of getting the former inmate to a meeting as soon as possible, usually within the first 48 hours after release.

During this time, you help them get acquainted, get phone numbers, perhaps locate a sponsor or home group, and become connected to the local A.A. community. You introduce the newly released inmate to others in A.A. so they have a broad, healthy base.

An A.A. member who is part of a correctional facilities volunteer program needs to be familiar with, and adhere to, rules that correctional facilities have regarding a volunteer's contact with inmates, both while they are in the facility and after they are released.

If you are willing to be the hand of A.A. when an inmate reaches out for help, complete the attached A.A. Corrections Contact Form and mail it to the address given.

A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Procedures

1. Inside A.A. members (those held in correctional facilities) are eligible for this program if they have less than six months to serve on their sentence.

2. The inmate fills out the form and mails it to the Corrections Committee, which is responsible for processing and coordinating all Prerelease Contacts.

3. The outside A.A. writes to the inside A.A. member within two weeks. If the Prerelease Contact fails to make contact, the inside A.A. member should inform the Corrections committee. (Prerelease Contacts may, if they wish, use as their return address that of a local A.A. office.)

4. The inside A.A. member and the outside contact set up a meeting at the time of the inmate's release. The inside A.A. provides such information as their date of release, arrival time in the local area, and an address and phone number.

5. The Prerelease Contact will meet the newly released A.A. at an agreed upon time and place to help them adjust to attending their first meetings in the local community.

6. The Prerelease Contact and the newly released A.A. will, by working together, know when they both feel the time has come for the Prerelease Contact to move on to someone new.

Suggestions for the Prerelease Contact

1. Contact the inside A.A. member by letter within two weeks of being matched and remain in touch with them as their release date approaches.

2. Try to take the former inmate to an A.A. meeting within 24 to 48 hours of their release.

3. It is suggested that the first meeting be viewed as a regular Twelfth Step call and that you take another A.A. member with you.

4. Share your experience, strength and hope with the newly released A.A., just as you would with any other person new to A.A. in your community.

5. Review the A.A. Correction Prerelease Contact Information with the former inmate so that there are no misunderstandings.

6. Your job is finished after a sponsor has been found, or when you and the inmate feel that the A.A. inmate is secure enough for you to move on.

7. Make sure the newly released A.A. receives meeting schedules, phone numbers, and A.A. literature.

8. Encourage the newly released A.A. to attend meetings as often as possible, to find a home group and, most important, to get a sponsor as soon as possible. Let them know that even a temporary sponsor who has time for them now would be acceptable.