

# The Role of Prerelease and **Bridging the Gap** (BTG)

## TEMPORARY CONTACT VOLUNTEERS

Warm greetings from the Trustees' Committee on Corrections. We are delighted to be in touch about the role of Prerelease and Bridging the Gap (BTG) temporary contact volunteers.

Alcoholics Anonymous has a single purpose of helping individuals who identify as alcoholics to find sobriety through attendance at A.A. meetings and participation with the Fellowship of A.A. Many members of A.A. volunteer as Prerelease and Bridging the Gap temporary contacts as part of their own A.A. recovery, with the intention of helping soon-to-be released or newly-released alcoholics. One of the ways A.A. members can assist individuals who are under community supervision is to introduce them to A.A. by accompanying them to local A.A. meetings during the first days of release. Prior to release, local volunteers may also be able to offer temporary sponsorship or literature.

If a local A.A. community does not have volunteers who can serve as Prerelease and Bridging the Gap temporary contact volunteers, the location and time of meetings can be found by contacting the nearest local A.A. office ([https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/find-aa-resources](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/find-aa-resources)) or through the Meeting Guide app, which can be downloaded for free through the App Store or Google Play. Meeting Guide will provide detailed information including day and time of meetings, and whether it is an open or closed meeting. Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers. Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking."

As a service center we do not govern local groups but can share their collective experiences. Alcoholics Anonymous offers alcoholics a new and satisfying way of life without alcohol — a program of recovery that is working successfully for millions of men and women throughout the world, in all walks of life. The A.A. concept is that alcoholism is a progressive, incurable illness that can be arrested by learning to stay away from the first drink, one day at a time.

Local members will often be willing to attend at your offices, facilities or your training or educational sessions to provide a free informational session to more fully acquaint your staff with these services.

Information about your local temporary contact services or A.A. in general can be requested from the Corrections desk of the General Service Office of A.A. at [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org) or you can visit our website at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).