

Delta Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Bridging the Gap Program



Volunteer Application

Bridging the Gap between the exit door of a treatment facility or correctional facility to the entrance door to an AA meeting.

Bridging the Gap
P.O. Box 692003
Stockton, CA 95269-2003
btgaadelta@gmail.com

3/12/2022

What is a Bridging the Gap Committee and What Does it Do?

The Bridging the Gap Committee is made up of AA members who are volunteering to help patients, clients and inmates optimize their transition directly and immediately upon release from the hospital, treatment or correctional facility to an AA meeting within the community where they will reside.



First Name _____ Last Name _____

Gender: Male Female Age _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Group _____ Location/Area of Home Group _____

This information is confidential and will remain inside AA

Date _____

Please cut this part and send it to your BTG coordinator or email to btgaadelta@gmail.com.
Thank you for serving Alcoholics Anonymous.

How Does AA Bridging the Gap Work?

Those having past problems with alcohol and a desire not to return to drinking upon release from treatment and correctional facilities contact the local Bridging the Gap P.O. Box.

A member of the Bridging the Gap Committee regularly retrieves the requests.

A member of the Bridging the Gap Committee consults a confidential list for an AA contact available to take the Bridging the Gap request. *At no time is personal contact information given directly to the newcomer or facilitators.*

The AA volunteer contacts the newcomer at their place of residence upon discharge or release, and with another AA member accompanies the newcomer to his or her first meeting.

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.

Guidelines for AA Bridging the Gap Volunteers

(adopted by the Bridging the Gap Committee of the Delta Intergroup of AA on 6/14/08)

- Bridging the Gap volunteers should always work in pairs. At least one of the pair should have a year's sobriety, have a sponsor and has worked or is working the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. (added 2/11/2022)
- Men are referred to men and women to women.
- Bridging the Gap volunteers meet the newcomer at an AA meeting place, at a public location, or at the newcomer's residence upon discharge or release.
- The Bridging the Gap volunteer
 - Encourages the newcomer to obtain a phone list.
 - Explains sponsorship and introduces the newcomer to prospective sponsors and other Group members.
 - Introduces the newcomer to the meeting secretary.
 - Provides the newcomer with a meeting schedule and explains the types of meetings.
 - Accompanies the newcomer to not more than three meetings and encourages him or her to begin participating.
 - Explains the meeting "etiquette:" importance of arriving on time, when to turn in or pick up any facility-required attendance slips, avoiding cross-talk, etc.
 - Shows the newcomer the Group's AA literature rack.
- It is suggested that the Bridging the Gap contact NOT become the sponsor.

What AA Bridging the Gap DOES NOT do:

- Provide contacts for other recovery programs. Bridging the Gap has but one primary purpose: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
- Provide monetary assistance to the newcomer.
- Provide meals, housing or transportation services.
- Serve as case workers or payees for government benefits.
- Report to probation, Child Protective Services, or any other mandating agency.
- Make medical diagnoses.
- Offer opinions on the newcomer's treatment program, aftercare or probation requirements.
- Offer professional counseling.
- Affiliate with councils or social agencies.
- Keep attendance records or case histories.
- Insure the newcomer meets any mandates from the Courts or aftercare program.