

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
BRIDGING THE GAP
A TEMPORARY CONTACT PROGRAM**

**“NOTHING WILL SO MUCH INSURE IMMUNITY FROM DRINKING AS
INTENSIVE WORK WITH OTHER ALCOHOLICS.”**

We need AA members to volunteer to be “temporary contacts” (not sponsors) to help in the very important first step for alcoholics who have just been released from a detox, hospital, treatment program or correctional facility. By providing a temporary contact, Bridging the Gap (BTG) helps newcomers make the transition to Alcoholics Anonymous in his or her home community.

Alcoholics Anonymous was founded when Bill W. sought out Dr. Bob, and the Fellowship grew because they, in turn, sought out other alcoholics. What is ever important is our responsibility to the still sick and suffering alcoholic.

This temporary contact program called Bridging the Gap (BTG) is exactly that: a temporary arrangement until the new member feels at home in AA. It is not sponsorship. This program is working successfully in many areas. Why not ours.

GUIDELINES FOR TEMPORARY CONTACTS

Working within our Traditions, temporary contacts may do such things as:

- Visit or speak to the alcoholic before he or she leaves the facility.
- Pick up or meet that alcoholic at AA meetings in the home community (especially on the day that he or she is released from the facility).
- Take the time to introduce that individual to other AA members.
- Explain the importance of getting – and using - AA members’ phone numbers.
- Sponsorship should be explained to the newcomer. Information pertinent to sponsorship can be found in the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”

Volunteers are needed. If you would like to take part in this important 12 Step Work by being a temporary contact for a newcomer being released from a facility, **PLEASE JUST FILL IN YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER, ETC ON THE CONFIDENTIAL TEMPORARY CONTACT LIST ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS SHEET.** If you have any questions, speak to a member of your home group or your home group’s GSR. They will pass this contact List on to your District Bridging the Gap (BTG) chairperson.

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