

20th Annual Bridge the Gap Conference

Gayle S. R.– GSO Treatment/Corrections Assignment

- There is a new paragraph in the Corrections guidelines concerning bridging the gap/temporary contacts. On the website also.
- Need example pamphlets for bridging
- 5 workbooks available; treatment, corrections, public information, cooperation with the professional community, special needs.
- Treatment workbook has been updated.
- As far as GSO is concerned all the committees (different workbooks) are separate and equal
- *Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell* pamphlet is being updated/revamped. It is in the subcommittee state and hopefully it will be done in 2011.

Dr. Omar Manejwala, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.P.A., Medical Director Hazelden, Center City, MN

- Gave a breakdown of how Hazelden operates. More specifically how they connect their patients with the fellowship after care.
- It only takes one or two individuals to burn a bridge to a facility.
- The most important aspect of cooperation is consistency and reliability.
- If you are attempting to connect to a facility on the hospital side contact the director of nursing.
- Reach out to members on the staff who are in the fellowship.
- Professional's fundamental belief is the distinction between alcoholism and other outside issues is irrelevant to them. Not that it isn't important to our fellowship it just isn't something they consider.
- Don'ts – don't enter any other areas of facility; don't comment on outside issues especially psychiatric issues even if you have experience with those areas, you may confuse the patient with their own care; don't discuss religion; don't give pseudo-science, we are not experts on anything in our fellowship capacity; leave the facility better than you found it; beware of insensitive humor; don't evangelize; don't bring an entourage
- Do's – have a cheerful positive attitude; carry a message of hope and love; broad knowledge of AA and the various types of meetings; take the time to learn the rules, ex. Smoking, use of cell phones etc.; inform director of what aa is and is not; greet people by name; check in with facility on how we are doing and how we can be more helpful; thank the facility whenever possible; make it very clear that we don't speak for AA; carry an unqualified consistent message of hope.

Rick S., Sun City West, AZ – Revival and Struggles in the AZ area

Ken Y., Waukesha, WI – Temporary Contact Programs in Wisconsin

- Don't keep records in their area as a confidentiality issue
- Sent a letter to GSO to get BTG its own desk
- Emphasis on making sure you have the time to do the work

Dick R., Placerville, CA – BTG within the Districts-Chair Kits

- Area 07 just started their BTG panel
- Used to be the alternate chair responsibilities
- Took California Northern Coastal area's district kit and made it their own.
- Makes use of the *Hope* video

CPC Professional and AA panel

- Mark Groves, Facilities Re-Entry Coordinator w/MN DOC
 - Transition fairs – do they have them in Idaho?
 - One of the most important variables in someone's ability to re-enter society is their connections on the outside.
- Judy Squires, Corrections Program Therapist w/MN CF – Faribault

- Mike Daub, Runs DWI court program
 - He's a lawyer
 - Find a lawyer to set up a meeting with the DWI judges, drug court judges and explain the process.
 - Used "Here are the steps we took" and "Back to Basics" to set up a program with the court.
- Larry F., Area 36 Host Co-Chair, Minnetonka, MN

- Martha L., Area 36 CF Chair, Excelsior, MN
 - Gave a great pamphlet
 - One person per facility
 - Consistency
 - Relationships with staff members

Pam G., Des Moines, IA - Bridging into adolescence facilities

- Everything is in the workbook
- Consistency
- The facility, with our help, will write a letter to the parents letting them know who AA is and isn't and what kind of meetings their kids will be attending.
- Maybe do a Q&A session with the parents if need be.
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Julian T., San Bruno, CA – Working w/PI-CPC, H&I, C.O.-GSO

- Ask for help
- Cooperation and an open mind

Leo W., Branson, MO – presentations to clients and professionals

- Need a btg workbook and probably make it yourself, borrow from others

Frank P., Arvada, CO – BTG Presentations

- Handed out a format
- Get a hold of all the directors of hospitals and institutions to get btg presentations in these facilities
- Has a placement coordinator for each facility
- Has a problem reaching out to outpatient and detox
- Hands out meeting schedules for na or ca or directs them to another 12 step program that might help them better if they choose

Bruce I., Bountiful, UT

- Get message to fellowship and facilities
- Get the message to members
- Get organized and get some guidelines
- Guidelines should state objective and state what area and districts will do.
- Made a GSR packet for the homegroups
- Volunteer presentation kit
- Facility/administrator kit
- Have a district workbook with all this stuff in it
- Lots of suggested material

Neal W., St. Joseph, MO – Behind the Scenes

- Important to get people involved in general service.
- Volunteers are ever needed.
- It takes a ton of work

Kelly L., Glendale Heights, IL – Using the Web

- Aa-nia.org – nice website

Cheri – our website master for BTGWW

- The username – contact
- The password –
- cherijones@wamo-aa.org
- 8165912924