

Maryland General Service (MGS) Area 29

**Temporary Contact Request**

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Bridging the Gap (BTG)

**AA Newcomer’s Contact Information** This section is to be completed by the newcomer requesting help.

PLEASE TYPE or PRINT LEGIBLY:Today’s Date:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Full Name: | |  |
|  | | Gender: | Male  Female |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Age: |  |  | Armed Services Veteran |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Address Discharging to: (include zip code and neighborhood for large cities) | |  |
| Phone Number(s) - after your release: | |  |
| E-mail Address - after your release: | |  |
| Will you have access to transportation after your release, either public or private? | | Yes  No |
| Do you have any prior AA experience? | | Yes  No |
| Do you have a desire to stop drinking? | | Yes  No |
| Do you have a problem with medications and/or other drugs? | | Yes  No |
| Current Facility: (include city and state) | |  |
|  | Facility Type: | Treatment Center  Hospital  Sober House  Correctional Facility  Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | Admission Date (mm/dd/yy): |  |
|  | Release Date (mm/dd/yy): |  |
|  | Other Information or Notes  Like Counselor's/Case Managers name: |  |

Provide this form to an AA member or the Bridging the Gap Coordinator so that it may be promptly sent to **the appropriate Local Coordinator, the Temporary Contact Request Coordinator. It can also be emailed to:** [treatmentfacilities@marylandaa.org](mailto:treatmentfacilities@marylandaa.org) **or faxed to 443 -451-8255.**

The section below is to be completed by the BTG Facility Committee Coordinator or the person submitting the request.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| BTG Facility Committee: |  | Committee E-mail Address: |
| Name: |  | AA Member - or -  Facility Employee |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Phone Number: |  |
| E-mail Address: |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contact For More Info: | Submitting MGS Treatment Facilities Committee - or - |

The section below is to be completed by the Temporary Contact Request Coordinator (TCRC).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Receiving Region: |  | Receiving District or Intergroup: |  |
| Newcomer Instructions Rec’vd: | Yes  No | Initial Meeting in Facility: | Yes  No |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AA BTG Contact’s Name: |  | AA BTG Contact’s Phone: |  |
| AA Contact’s E-mail: |  | AA BTG Contact’s Hometown |  |
| Other Information/Notes: |  | | |

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**Bridging the Gap (BTG)**

Part of Bridging the Gap between an individual in a facility and AA is the Temporary Contact Program, which is designed to help the alcoholic in an alcoholism treatment program make that transition.

One of the more “slippery” places in the journey to sobriety is the “gap” between the door of the facility and the nearest AA group or meeting. Some of us can tell you that, even though we heard about AA within the facility, we were too fearful to go on our own.

The video *Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous*, shown to clients in treatment, emphasizes the importance of having a **temporary** contact as the essential link between treatment and recovery.

It is suggested that the temporary contact take the newcomer to a variety of AA meetings, introduce him or her to other AA members, insure that he or she has phone numbers of several AA members, and share the experience of sponsorship and a home group.

**AA Bridging the Gap/**

**Temporary Contact Program**

We have a program in this area called the AA Bridging the Gap/Temporary Contact Program. If you are interested, you can be matched upon your discharge to an AA member in your home community. This AA Temporary Contact volunteer will take you to up to six AA meetings, introduce you to other AA members, and help you to get comfortable in AA. During this time, you will learn more about sponsors, home groups, working AA’s Twelve Steps, and service opportunities.

Your Bridging the Gap contact is **temporary** only. He or she is there to support you, answer your questions, and explain the AA program of recovery. He or she will not provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money, or any other such service. You will undoubtedly hear the five basic suggestions for sobriety that the Fellowship shares with all members: 1) Don’t drink; 2) Go to meetings; 3) Read the Big Book; 4) Call your sponsor; and 5) Work the Steps.

Our experience has shown that attending an AA meeting, as soon as possible after discharge, is vital to making a sober transition to life on the outside. Many of us have been where you are now and know that the program of AA and its fellowship can do for you what it has done for us and countless others.

An individual who is to be discharged soon may need to have his or her request accelerated by advising the BTG Coordinator or the Area Treatment and Corrections Committee Volunteers of the need for immediate processing.

Some professionals refer to alcoholism and drug addiction as “substance abuse.” Therefore, nonalcoholics are sometimes introduced to AA and encouraged to attend AA meetings. Anyone may attend an open AA meeting, but only those with a drinking problem may attend closed meetings.

* *This page is for the newcomer. -*

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| **Maryland General Service**  **(MGS) Treatment Facilities Committee:**  [**treatmentfacilities@marylandaa.org**](mailto:treatmentfacilities@marylandaa.org)  Fax: 443-451-8255  Maryland General Service Website: [www.marylandaa.org](http://www.marylandaa.org)  Alcoholics Anonymous Website:  [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)  AA Grapevine Website:  [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org)  Intergroup Listing:  <http://www.marylandaa.org/intergroups.htm>  *Portions of the form are reprinted with permission.*  *Copyright © (July, 2012)*  *A.A. World Services Inc.*  *BTG 6 Temporary Contact Request Form Page 1 - 101213 JDR DW KW JDR* |