

"Pre Release" or "Bridging the Gap" Referrals

The "Pre Release" or "Bridging the Gap" program in your district will help foster a smoother transition for AA's who are released from correctional institutions. "Inside" AA's have contacted GSO, who in turn has provided the Area 59 Corrections contact with the information. Complete information may not be known at the time of the initial request such as; a release phone number, exact release date, or even an exact address.

To establish contact, the "outside" AA member writes to the "inside" AA member while they are still incarcerated with the information provided. They set up arrangements to meet each other on the day of release or as soon as possible. Experience has shown that attending an AA meeting on the day of release from prison is one of the most effective tools for maintaining continued sobriety. It is strongly recommended that an inmate who is an AA member have an AA contact on the outside who can meet him/her on the day of release to help "bridge the gap" between the institution and the outside world.

When corresponding with an inmate please complete your first and last name (initials will not be accepted by the prisons). It is suggested that a PO Box be used, **and the inmates ID # must be included.**

The following guidelines for this rewarding 12th step work are as follows:

1. Share their experience, strength & hope.
2. It is better for men to work with men and women to work with women.
3. If possible a contact should be a member of an AA group in the vicinity of the inmates residence when he/she is released.
4. As in all 12th step work, it is suggested that two AA members meet the inmate upon release.

Sample of a response / correspondence to an inmate:

We received your name from the General Service Office in New York City. We are enclosing a directory of AA meetings.

The AA members in this area wish you well and look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Please contact me when you arrive (telephone) for further information you may need. We will be very happy to take you to a meeting.

Sincerely

Please contact us if we can be of assistance,

Area 59 Corrections Committee

corrections@area59aa.org

THE PRE-RELEASE CONTACT/BRIDGING THE GAP FORM
THIS FORM IS FOR DISTRICT'S TO GATHER ("OUTSIDE") AA'S WHO ARE WILLING TO
BE TEMPORARY CONTACTS –THIS IS FOR EACH DCM'S CONVENIENCE AND IS TO
REMAIN WITHIN THE INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A
TEMPORARY CONTACT FILL OUT THIS FORM AND GIVE IT TO YOUR GSR OR DCM.



Area 59

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
www.area59aa.org

Pre-Release Contact/Bridging The Gap

For those AA members willing to be temporary contacts.

Male _____ Female _____

Name: _____

Address (Optional) _____

City (Required) _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

(All information will be confidential)

I am willing to serve as a:

(Please check one or both)

- Treatment Facility Contact
 Correctional Facility Contact

We are in need of your help!

Experience has shown that an AA meeting on the first day of release from a prison, jail or institution is one of the most effective tools for maintaining continued sobriety. A solid network of contacts throughout the Eastern Pennsylvania area and in your District will foster a smoother transition for AAs. Help “bridge the gap” between the institution and the outside world for our fellow AA members.

..... anytime, anywhere, anyone.

Please return this form to your GSR or DCM