

How Can I help the Alcoholic in Jail or Prison?

“Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail. ...You can help when no one else can.”

Alcoholics Anonymous, page 181

1. Bring AA meetings into local jails and prisons:

Albemarle Charlottesville Regional Jail: AA men and women are needed. Men's AA is on Monday nights at 7pm, women's meetings are every Tuesday and second and fourth Thursdays at 7pm, and meetings at the juvenile facility is on Saturdays at 2pm. New volunteers must apply and attend an orientation session at the jail.

Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women: AA meetings are every Monday at 6:30pm. Both men and women can take meetings into this facility.

Dillwyn Correctional Institution: AA meetings are being resumed after several years. New volunteers must attend an orientation at the prison. The meeting is expected to be on Wednesday evenings at 6pm. The next orientation will be on Wednesday, June 26, 5-8pm at Dillwyn.

2. **Be a Twelve Step Bridging the Gap volunteer.** Inmates about to be released can request to be assigned to an AA volunteer, who agrees to write the inmate before he leaves prison and to take him to a few AA meetings in the first few days after his release. Experience has shown that inmates who attend an AA meeting the first day after incarceration have a much better chance at recovery.

3. **Correspond with an inmate.** Local prisons allow AA members to write to inmates if inmates are not given the AA volunteer's personal address or telephone number. Letters from inmates are received at an AA Post Office Box, and only that PO Box may be used as a return address for letters to inmates.

For an application and information about the next orientation sessions and for information about Bridging the Gap or Inmate Correspondence, send queries to jdsc9corrections@gmail.com