

Task Force: Alateen Policy Changes

FRAMING:

A thorough review of the Ohio Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements has not been conducted for years, nor had the World Service Office reviewed our procedures up until December of 2018. In addition, 2019 World Service Conference made wording changes to the Alateen section in the “Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies” section of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27)*. Therefore, the charge of this Task Force is:

- 1- To review the Ohio Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements to ascertain what policies either need to be changed or need to be developed.
- 2- Develop policies that are consistent with 2019 WSC Motion 3 changes to the text in the “Alateen” section in the “Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies” section of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27)*.
- 3- Present a KBDM with the suggested changes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the Two-Day Fall Assembly 2004 the following motion passed: To adopt the Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements mandated by the Trustees at WSO, to keep Alateen in existence in Ohio. In Fall of 2011, the motion was approved to include the Application packet for Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service include in the Handbook for General and Committee Working Procedures. In May of 2018, the motion passed that another background check is not required until the end of the fifth year of service. In October of 2018, possible questions for a GR to ask an AMIAS applicant was added to the packet.

In December 2018, the Delegate received an email from the Associate Director of Group Services with suggested changes after reviewing the May 2018 version from the Handbook. This information was shared with the current AAPP who brought copies of the suggested changes along with a proposal for change to the both the Spring 2019 AWSC and the 2019 Spring OAA and a thought/task force was formed. Meanwhile, the 2019 World Service Conference approved revisions to the text of the “Alateen Policy” section of the “Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies” as appeared on pages 93 through 97 of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual version one (P-24/27)* for the purpose of clarification of the policies. There were no changes in the policies themselves in Motion #3.

The thought /task force did not meet, and no reports were given at either 2019 Fall AWSC or Fall Ohio Area Assembly. At 2020 Spring AWSC the charge was given as above with a new task force.

What do we know about our member’s or prospective member’s wants, needs, and preferences that are relevant to this discussion?

- Our members want to make sure that Ohio Alateen Safety and Behavior Requirements meet the legal requirements of the 2003 Alateen motion from the Board of Trustees and are clear and understandable by the membership and are consistent with the Alateen Policy as stated in the *P/24-27*
- Members want to know that sponsors attending Alateen meetings are currently certified AMIAS.
- Other AMIAS wish to be able to identify that a visiting AMIAS is certified.

What do we know about the capacity and strategic position of the organization relative to this issue?

- Changes to the packet are mainly style and edit and can be made by the Handbook Chair.
- Changes will bring clarity to the application in the packet.
- The provision of some sort of AMIAS identification card would be inexpensive to provide.

What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics that are relevant to this discussion?

- In the past there have been instances that previously certified sponsors who did not renew their AMIAS status continued to function as sponsors of Alateen Groups.
- There is no current way for AMIAS to identify themselves.

What are the ethical implications of our choices (pro and cons)? This includes consideration of how the Legacies apply. Identify both pros and cons.

Suggestions:

- 1. Make the style and edit changes to the Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirement suggested by WSO and reviewed by the Task Force.**

Pros:

- Style and edit changes keep our policies up to date with Al-Anon World Services.

- 2. Have the AAPP in collaboration with the Alateen Coordinator create an identification card for AMIAS Certification.**

Pros:

- An identification card would help confirm AMIAS certification of any adult attending an Alateen meeting.
- Expiration dates on the card for recertification and fingerprinting would help the AMIAS stay current with requirements.
- An AMIAS card would make going to out of state Alateen events easier.

- **Cons**

- Making the card and keeping it up to date is an added responsibility for the AAPP.
- The card would be an added expense for the Area.
- Cards could be falsified.

What do we wish we knew, but don't?

Will the style and edit changes help to clarify the Ohio Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements?

Will AMIAS have problems with not having their cards when needed?

Questions and clarification- no timing at the mic

Need for a motion? If so, use the motion form provided by the Area Chairman

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