

## ***Area 61 Treatment and Accessibility Commitment Guidelines***

Thank you all for being of service! These are basic guidelines and thoughts you should be aware of when bringing a commitment to a treatment center, psychiatric setting, or any hospital or facility in Rhode Island Area 61.

When we bring a commitment to a facility, it is critical that patients hear recovery is possible. Many patients have never been to an AA meeting, or have had bad experiences attending them in the past. This is our opportunity to show the benefits of AA and our twelve-step program of recovery. Many patients are at a vulnerable stage in their lives. For that reason, we want to make sure you are sensitive to their issues and request that some things you might normally share as part of your experience, strength, and hope be tempered. Please be sure any newcomers you bring to a commitment understand these guidelines and their importance.

\*Before going on your first commitment, we encourage you to join us at our monthly Treatment and Accessibility Committee meeting for an informational session. We meet the first Monday of each month at the Area Office.

\*Please be sure to register your commitment with the Committee Coordinator.

### **We ask that you avoid:**

- Detailed and graphic discussion of domestic violence incidents, or other incidents of crime or violence.
- Excessive profanity.
- Opinions of any treatment facilities, including the one you are visiting.

### **Please remember the following:**

- Don't give cigarettes or any other items to patients.
- Don't bring any sharp objects into a meeting.
- Leave NOTHING behind.
- Ask the staff for help if needed.
- Don't touch patients.
- **Focus on the solution, not the problem.**
- **Share your experience, strength, and hope.**
- **Send a positive message of recovery and the future.**
- **Please keep your message about alcoholism.**

I'm sure these are not new ideas for many of you, but a good guideline for us all to follow.

Thank you very much for your service and carrying the message of AA.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (401) 602-0062, Jeff W. your Area 61 Treatment & Accessibility Committee Chair.