DO's AND DON'Ts OUTLINE

Current edition of Hospitals & Institutions Handbook was first published in 1989. It has been updated since then and the one available now was last updated in 1996.

"The purpose of an H&I meeting is to carry the NA message of recovery to addicts who do not have full access to regular Narcotics Anonymous meetings. H&I meetings/presentations, except for those in longer-term facilities, are intended to simply introduce those attending to some of the basics of the NA program."

-H&I Handbook, page 1

FOUR TYPES OF DO'S AND DON'TS:
1) Adolescent page 6
2) Treatment Facilities pages 28-29
3) Correctional Facilities pages 40-42
4) Psychiatric & Forensic pages 47-49

[Point out that SFV H&I hands out copies of the Do's and Don'ts with their orientation packets for new panel leaders]

SALIENT UNIQUE DO'S AND DON'TS FOR EACH TYPE OF FACILITY

Adolescent
• Do Remember that an addict is an addict, regardless of age
• Do Tell them that there is fun in recovery, i.e., social events, fellowship, etc.
• Do Acknowledge and validate their feelings and emotions
• Do Acknowledge and validate their clean time.
• Don't Say, "I feel like I'm talking to my kids."
• Don't Compare your bottom to theirs
• Don't patronize adolescents
• Don't use profanity

Treatment
• Do Emphasize the importance of a sponsor, regular NA meeting attendance, and group commitments after release
• Do Explain the language that we use (addict, clean, recovery, clean time) and why we use it (the First Step of NA and Sixth Tradition of NA)

**Correctional**
• Don’t ask what type of crime an inmate has been convicted of, or discuss guilt or innocence

**Psychiatric/Forensic**
• Don’t read too many literature selections at the beginning of the meeting. Keep it short and simple to keep their attention.
• Don’t debate which drugs are acceptable; remember we have no opinion on outside issues.

**SALIENT COMMON DO’S AND DONTS**

- Do Ensure that a clear NA message of recovery is carried
- Do Provide facilities with literature forms and encourage them to supply their own NA literature
- Do Emphasize the importance of attending an N.A. meeting the first day out of the unit
- Don’t emphasize 'using days' while sharing an NA message of recovery

**No Brain-ers**
- Do Adhere to the security regulations at all times
- Keep the staff informed of your whereabouts
- Bring any contraband items or weapons into the treatment facility

**Problematic Ones**
- Don’t give anyone within the facility your address or telephone number (encourage them to go to meetings outside)
- Don’t sponsor resident(s) in the treatment facility that you are attending as an H&I member (shows favoritism; exceeds purpose of H&I)
- Don’t attend H&I facilities alone (better to go dark?)
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of an H&I meeting is to carry the N.A. message of recovery to addicts who do not have full access to regular N.A. meetings. H&I meetings/presentations, except for those in longer-term facilities, are intended to simply introduce those attending to some of the basics of the N.A. program. *(WSC H&/)

CLARITY STATEMENT

In Narcotics Anonymous, we refer to our time on the program as clean time or recovery and we identify only as an addict. This is to allow our message to be clear as it addresses only the disease of addiction...we appreciate you using the language consistent with recovery in the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. *(SO. CAL RSC H&/)*