



WSO Writers' Reaching Out Project
Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism Magazine 2009 Needs Your Story!

The WSO is in need of personal stories aimed at the individual who is unfamiliar or hesitant to attend Al-Anon for the *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2009* issue. Our Public Outreach magazine is purchased by members and distributed to professionals, organizations, and other public entities that provide services or are in contact with families of alcoholics. The purpose of this type of article is to motivate patients/clients of professionals to attend Al-Anon and to encourage professionals to refer their patients/clients to Al-Anon.

Guideline for *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism Magazine* Personal Stories – Write a 100 to 400 word story addressing the following points:

1. How did you know you needed help because of someone else's drinking?
2. Who or what motivated you to contact Al-Anon and how long was it before you actually attended your first meeting?
3. Did you ever start attending Al-Anon and then stop? If so, why did you leave and how long did you stay away from Al-Anon? Why did you return to Al-Anon?
4. What Al-Anon recovery tools were the most helpful to you when you first started attending Al-Anon?
5. Why do you continue to attend Al-Anon?
6. **Optional** – *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* has also included statements or stories from members expressing gratitude for the professional who referred them to Al-Anon in stories of this type. Professionals have played an important role in guiding their patients, clients, and students to our program throughout Al-Anon's 56-year history.

Publication

1. If accepted for publication, your story will appear with your first name and last name initial, and the state or province where you live.
2. All stories become the property of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. and may be used in whole or in part to develop Al-Anon/Alateen materials including *The Forum*, our monthly magazine and the Internet.
3. Members will be notified and sent complimentary copies of the issue containing their story or the Web site address of their article.

Permission to Reprint – The Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. may submit or include quotes from articles for other Al-Anon or organizational publications.

Submission – Send your personal story to the WSO **by January 1, 2008**. Please mark it "*Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*" or "*AFA*" e-mail, wso@al-anon.org, fax 757-563-1655, or mail to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA , 23454-5617.

Thanks for reaching out to others with Al-Anon's message of hope by writing an article for our *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine!

s/communication/public outreach/al-anon faces alcoholism/2009/guideline for writing members stories