

All Alateen meetings are closed, open only to Alateen members and Area-certified Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) who are serving as the Alateen Group Sponsors. We believe alcoholism is a family disease because it affects ALL the members emotionally and sometimes physically. Although we cannot change or control our parents, we can detach from their problems while continuing to love them.

Sponsorship is a mutual and confidential sharing between two Al-Anon or Alateen members. Alateen Personal **Sponsors Just as** Al-Anon members sponsor each other, Alateens sponsor each other. Alateen Personal Sponsors are fellow teenagers who can discuss personal problems or questions with those they sponsor. Personal Sponsors willingly share the experience, Strength and hope of the Alateen program.

I'm hoping to send District Representatives a list of their Al-Anon Members Involved In Alateen Service. I would like them to let me know if everyone is still residing in New York State and are still interested in being involved as an AMIAS. I will be updating the Alateen information with the printout. Anyone interested in being an Alateen sponsor must regularly attend Al-Anon meetings for at least 2 years. Any Alateen that has moved on to Al-Anon interested in sponsoring an Alateen group must attend Al-Anon meetings regularly for 2 years before sponsoring Alateens and must keep attending Al-Anon meetings. Members of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon must attend Al-Anon for two years before becoming a Sponsor or AMIAS. This is done to protect the safety of our Alateen members. Any Al-Anon member involved in Alateen service must be active in Al-Anon meetings. Every Al-Anon group should consider sponsoring an Alateen group. Teens deserve recovery just as much their parents.

Love in Service, Shirley