

New York North 2019 State Fair Public Outreach Booth Report

I would like to thank all of you who volunteered to man Our Public Outreach Booth at the New York State Fair. I am grateful to the several members who have volunteered each year and to several people whom this was their very first time.

The comments we received from the volunteers felt that they were able to pass on the Message that Al-Anon is available for Comfort & Hope to those who were affected by someone else's drinking.

We had 866 visitors to our booth. We gave out Literature which included the **20 Questions for**

Adult Children, Alateen, and Friends & Family of Problem Drinkers. We also gave the

Public Outreach Bookmark, the **Bookmark What Al- Anon Is and Is Not.** We gave out **Al-Anon Faces**

Alcoholism in both English and Spanish. New this year we added Hand held Fans that were a duplicate

of our Banner which says, When **you don't know where to turn because someone drinks too much Al-**

Anon can help. This fan included the World Service office 1-800 number & website. It also included New

York Norths Website. We were able to distribute schedules for several Districts. This year we also

created and eye catching Poster using the image of a Merry Go Round asking "if we are Ready to step of

the Merry-go-round of Denial's? And a quote from Alcoholism, **the Family Disease (P.4) page**

The following are types of queries and comments that the Volunteers registered.

- **Questions**, what is the difference between AA & Alanson? This gave our Volunteers a chance to personally share what the difference was. They were able to pass out the Al-Anon Faces **Alcoholism** and several different pamphlets to help people understand.
- Many people were concerned for their children or grandchildren. Gave them information regarding Alateen & schedules of meetings.
- **Many Professional People** came to pick up information and schedules of meetings to give to clients or others they worked with. This included: Nurses, Nursing students, EAP Councilors, Pharmacy Student from Canada, Volunteer with Prison Ministry, Teacher Onondaga Nation School, (Native American School), High School Councilor, Looking for outreach to the Courts, NY State Nursing Association, NY South OASIS & Substance Abuse counselors & a Policeman.
- **Many people from various parts of New York State & Other Areas**, (Not just a Syracuse Event although it is held in Syracuse). Places they were from: Broom County, Oswego County, Oneida County, Albany, Canada, Trinidad, Canada, Nashville Tenn. Rochester, Buffalo, Chenango County, Cortland County.
- **Queries about Alateen:** Who can attend & where are meetings?

- **Location of Meetings.** Gave out schedules for many Districts including New York South contact information. Gave the WSO Website Address for places we did not have information about and New York North Website for future contact information.
- **Family & Friends of Alcoholics** or were concerned by others who drank. Concerned about a family member or friends who needed this information.
- **Many AA members** stopped to share about their Gratitude for being Sober and asked where the AA Booth was.
- **Many current or Former Al-Anon members** came to tell us there experience in Al-Anon. Happy to see us there.

Next year's New York State Fair Dates will be August 26-September 7th. Please enter it on your Calendar now so you will be able to join us in Carrying the Message of Al-Anon.