

Summer, 2021, from the NYC AI-Anon Intergroup Board of Trustees

Hello. We want to speak out about Alateen, because many of our members don't really know what Alateen is.

Alateen meetings are AI-Anon meetings *with some differences*:

- Alateen Groups are AI-Anon meetings for kids. AI-Anon World Service does not set age parameters. In our current Manhattan and Brooklyn zoom meetings the youngest are about 9 and 11. The group sets the parameters.
- The only Adults allowed to attend are two (2) trained AMIAS's (AI-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service). They get training from the New York South Area in our Area Alateen Behavioral Requirements.
- Adults with AMIAS training can become Alateen Group Sponsors.
- The kids run the meetings: they are in charge of treasury, literature, chairing, and maybe more.
- Each Alateen group can be encouraged to send a representative to IR meetings and a Group Rep (GR) to the New York South Area Assembly.
- Local Districts usually are involved in supporting the Alateen meetings within their District, perhaps with public outreach, helping to start new meetings, supporting AMIAS training, and donating literature.
- Intergroup has no direct involvement with the Alateen groups, but offers the same support we give to adult AI-Anon groups, i.e. to foster communication between groups and offer information and support to newcomers. We have the option to give support via donating literature and meeting space, or supporting a zoom subscription.

As we at Intergroup do Inreach (communicating with established members and groups) and Outreach (communicating with newcomers and the public), we see AMIAS service as a way to enact our mission, specifically #4 (facilitating dialogue and public outreach) and #5 (fostering a sense of community among meetings throughout the five boroughs of NYC).

Starting today we can

- Remind ourselves** that Alateen meetings are AI-Anon meetings.
- Publicize** AMIAS training dates. A list of dates is posted on the Alateen page of Intergroup's website (NYCalanon.org) by announcing them at meetings.
- Encourage service** in Alateen as a part of our recovery (Step 12).
- Remind our group at every meeting** that if anyone knows a young person whose life has been affected by the family disease of alcoholism, Alateen can be a resource..
- Request a group conscience** to include an update in the AI-Anon meeting format to announce Alateen meetings in NYC.

Finally, we think it would be helpful to Intergroup and to the future of Alateen meetings to have young people attend IR meetings. Let's help Alateen to thrive, not just survive!