

SETA 67 Corrections Contact Form

Name: _____

Sex: M F

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Group: _____

Location: _____

I am interested in:

Correspondence PreRelease

Please mail to:

SETA CFC

PO BOX 925241

HOUSTON, TX 77292-5241

Suggestions for the Prerelease Contact

1. Contact the inside A.A. member by letter within two weeks of being matched and remain in touch with them until their release date.
2. Try to take the former inmate to an A.A. meeting within 24 hours of their release.
3. It is suggested that the first meeting be viewed as a Twelfth Step call and that you take another A.A. member with you.
4. Share your experience, strength and hope with the newly released A.A., just as you would with any other person new to A.A.
5. Review the A.A. Correction Prerelease Pamphlet with the former inmate so that there are no misunderstandings.
6. Your PreRelease role is complete after a sponsor has been found, or when you and the former inmate feel that he is secure in an A.A. group.
7. Make sure the newly released A.A. receives meeting schedules, phone numbers, and A.A. literature.
8. Encourage the newly released A.A. to attend meetings as often as possible, to find a home group and, most important, to get a sponsor as soon as possible. Let them know that even a temporary sponsor would be acceptable.

SETA 67 Correctional Facilities Committee

Correspondence & Pre-Release Pamphlet



Correspondence

We are in need of A.A. members on the “outside” to correspond with A.A. members in correctional facilities. We suggest men correspond with men and women with women. Having prison experience is not a prerequisite — sobriety in A.A. is. Inmates are more interested in learning how we got and stayed sober through A.A.’s Twelve Steps, rather than hearing about time we may have spent in prison. If you would like to share your experience, strength and hope with A.A.s who are confined, please mail the tear-off form to the address provided. The name of an inmate will be sent to you from SETA CFC through mail or email. You will begin correspondence with the inmate through mail. Those who have participated in this service have found sharing with inmates a very gratifying form of Twelfth Step work. We are happy to know there are A.A. members like you willing to help make it possible for the A.A. message to be carried to those on the “inside.”

Suggestions for the Correction’s Correspondent

1. We introduce ourselves by qualifying briefly in our opening letter.
2. We try to let the inmate know that writing helps us as much as it helps them.
3. We let the inmate know they are not alone.
4. We share sobriety and only sobriety.
5. Emotional and romantic entanglements are avoided (men with men, women with women).
6. If we send gifts for special occasions, we send AA literature. Many correctional facilities only allow inmates to receive literature from the publisher.
7. In the spirit of the Twelfth Tradition, we respect the anonymity of correspondents.
8. We encourage the inmate to participate in AA on the inside.
9. We encourage the inmate to become involved in the PreRelease Program before their exit date.
10. We do not run errands or contact family or attorneys on behalf of the inmate.
11. We do not provide personal information including home address. We use the SETA CFC PO Box as a return address. Others use their district or AA group as a return address.

PreRelease

The A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Program connects the A.A. member being released from a correctional facility with Alcoholics Anonymous by Zip Code. When the soon-to-be-released A.A. inmate writes us, we match that person to a Prerelease Contact in their Zip Code. If you are interested in this form of service, fill out this form. We will add you to the list and match you with an inmate releasing to your zip code. Many A.A.s involved in this service stress the importance of getting the former inmate to a meeting within 24 hours after release. During this time, you help them get acquainted, get phone numbers, perhaps locate a sponsor or home group, and become connected to the local A.A. community. You introduce the newly released inmate to others in A.A. so they have a broad, healthy base. If you are willing to be the hand of A.A. when an inmate reaches out for help, complete the attached form and mail it to the address given. Please join us as we trudge.