

En. Gr. Alateen

June 6, 1962

Miss Jean W [redacted]
Route 4, Box 234
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Dear Jean,

We are delighted to learn that there is interest in starting an Alateen group in Idaho Falls. This office is the service center for over 160 registered Alateen groups, in addition to 1700 Al-Anon groups.

Many professional people are prompted to write us after having read about Alateens. They recognize the potentialities in these groups for aiding adolescents in their understanding of the alcoholic problem, and also in easing delinquency. The Alateen meetings do help members to accept alcoholism as a sickness, and do definitely reduce bitterness toward the alcoholic parent.

Their program is based on the 12 Steps of AA, and as in Al-Anon, the members use these steps as a standard of conduct for their own lives. It is customary and advisable to start an Alateen group with an adult "advisor" from Al-Anon, with the cooperation of an interested AA member. Our office has observed that the Alateen groups which continue to function effectively are those that have dedicated sponsors to guide them in the application of the 12 Steps and Traditions of Al-Anon.

Enclosed is some literature to help the group plan future program. Would you please fill out and return the registration card, so that the group may receive a free copy of the "Family Group Forum" each month. The FORUM is the main contact with this office, and news of Alateen activities is often included.

If possible, we would like a permanent mailing address for the group, that may be used for referral of individuals seeking Alateens' help, and also be listed in our next World Directory. All registered groups are sent a free copy of the Directory annually.

You will find it most helpful to place all of the starting material, including the monthly copy of the FORUM, in a folder, to serve as a permanent source of information to the group as a whole, with each succeeding secretary acting as temporary custodian.

All good wishes to you in this new undertaking.

Sincerely,

Enc: Alateen Packet
June Forum

Staff Member

P.S. We have written to the Secretary of the Al-Anon group in Idaho Falls, and asked her to get in touch with you, to help you in the formation of your new group of Alateens. Good luck to you. CF