DISTRICT 2 August 2022 AWSC Report

"Spreading Hope"

In the spirit of keeping it simple, we don't have a whole lot to report since our recent report to Assembly in June.

Public Outreach Re-formation

Our biggest news not reported previously is that we have launched an effort to "re-form" our D2 Public Outreach efforts. With much help and direction from Diane, Area Public Outreach Coordinator, we have gotten more clear on what works and subsequently had our first Outreach Workshop in June. The objective of the workshop was to brainstorm what our District priorities are and discern how we want to expand our reach. Most importantly, we came to understand that we are all Public Outreach; it is not a solo activity to be chaired by a single individual, and that it cannot thrive in a vacuum.

We've decided to structure our Outreach with the 3 legs of: Professionals, Institutions, and Schools for Alateen. During our workshop, we had informational presentations for each leg followed by breakout sessions for each group to establish priorities and next steps.

Our Alateen group decided to focus our efforts in Alachua County for now, since we have our first new Alateen group meeting in Alachua. The group is working on a checklist of priorities, with an emphasis on getting to the Alachua County Schools Superintendent to begin to educate on what Alateen is and how we might get our message to Alateens in need.

Our Professionals group decided that the focus for this Panel will be to focus on Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities and their corresponding family weeks or other family events, and to generate a list of facilities. Already we are working on securing space for an Al-Anon table for an upcoming 5K event in September that is hosted by the Florida Recovery Center.

Our Corrections group determined that it makes sense to start our work in Marion County where we already had a pre-Covid presence. There are two facilities in Marion County that have not yet re-opened, but we are back in conversations with them and going through the processes of getting volunteers credentialed or re-credentialed to go back in as soon as we can. We are gifted to have a new member in our District that moved to Florida after retiring from a career in Corrections and she has teamed up with our existing volunteer to refresh and restart. In addition, they are working on identifying all the facilities in all the counties in our District so we can grow what we sow in Marion over time.

In all cases, our dream is to expand what we learn to all the counties that we serve. Our hope is to establish a solid foundation from which future Panels can build.

Patricia L., DR Kathy P., DISL

Please visit our website alanonfla2.org for the latest information.