

Ten Traditions

(Long Form)

1. We must think of the group first. With every action we take we should remember this. Our recovery depends on it.

To protect the group we must always put it first. We must always make sure our group will survive in order to help others. There is nothing more important than this. All decisions that are made should be made only after much thought has been put into them. This will ensure the longevity of our group.

2. The only requirement for Addicts Anonymous membership is a desire to stop using you're substance or addiction of choice. It does not matter if you are currently using or not. We welcome all addicts.

In order to join Addicts Anonymous we ask only one thing, you have a desire to stop using your substance of choice and want to abandon the lifestyle you are currently living. This group is open to all in need. We turn away no one. As long as you are looking for help we will always be here. All you have to do is be looking for support in your time of need and the group will be here for you. That is our only requirement for membership, never forget that.

3. . Each group should handle its own business and structure except when affecting Addicts Anonymous as a whole.

It is up to each group how they form the structure of their group. When creating committees and boards this will be up to each group as to how it operates. The only time Addicts Anonymous may accept outside contributions is through fundraisers with friends and family. This way we avoid asking for any type of public assistance.

4. Our group is for one purpose, and one purpose only. That purpose is to help our fellow addicts when they are in need.

Addicts Anonymous's sole purpose is to serve the suffering addict. We turn away no addict when they are suffering and in need. Whether they are still using or not is not our concern. Our only concern is that they are currently looking for help and we will provide that to the best of our ability. Many people still in the throes of addiction are afraid to ask for help while they are currently using. We want to change that. That is our purpose.

5. An Addicts Anonymous group should never lend our name for any type of advertising, especially one where there is money involved.

We do not advertise in any public area or space for membership or any other purpose. There is to be no use of the Addicts Anonymous name especially when there is money involved. We steer clear of any controversy this way.

6. Every Addicts Anonymous group should pay its own bills, accepting donations from only family and friends. Members may donate at their own discretion.

Addicts Anonymous does not solicit any donations from the public. Every Addicts Anonymous group is responsible to handle their own business. Each group ought to pay its own bills. Each group should grow to be self-sustaining through member contributions. Funds may be raised for this purpose in the form of fundraisers accepting donations only from members, family and friends of the group.

7. Addicts Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We will never charge any fees for any of the support we provide to addicts.

This is one of the most important traditions. All services we provide will be forever free. No Addicts Anonymous group may ever charge for membership or services. This will always be a core principle of the group.

8. Addicts Anonymous has no opinion on any outside issues. This way we can protect the Addicts Anonymous name and group.

Addicts Anonymous must remain neutral on all outside issues. This will keep the Addicts Anonymous name out of any type of controversial issue.

9. Addicts Anonymous grows mainly through word of mouth and attraction. However, each group may advertise to seek new members.

We grow organically through word of mouth. We rely more on attraction rather than promotion. An Addicts Anonymous group may advertise whether that be online or in print.

10. We think of the group first and what is said here, stays here.

Addicts Anonymous is a safe space for all addicts. To ensure this our group members must keep everything said within our group private. Our members typically attend for this reason. Many are afraid of a stigma being attached to them as an addict and we want these people to have a safe place to discuss their addiction and recovery issues. This is of the utmost importance.