



**PROPOSAL FOR A PROJECT TO BENEFIT AL-ANON /ALATEEN FAMILY  
GROUPS IN MASSACHUSETTS**

## Overview

Through the generosity of Al-Anon members, Al-Anon Family Groups of Mass, Inc. can be named as a beneficiary in their wills. Per the By-Laws of AFG of Mass Inc. the use of these funds is described in *Bequests from Al-Anon members to Al-Anon Family Groups of Massachusetts, Inc. Principles and Policy* as approved by the Area Assembly 5/21/22. [see 10. Appendix1]

At the Area Assembly on 10/15/22 procedures were approved to guide the process for this. This document includes the **Criteria for Assessing Proposals at this end of this document.** [see 11. Appendix2]

Please review these documents as you consider ideas that will support and encourage current and future members of all ages.

**After your Group, District or Area Committee has discussed** and developed your idea(s), please complete this form and submit it following the instructions at the end.

Consider these points:

- How does project help fulfill our primary purpose to help families and friends of alcoholics?
- Does the project reflect the principles within the Legacies?
- Does the project reflect, spiritual principles such as abundance, acceptance, equality, gratitude, hope, trust, unity, mutual respect, attraction not promotion, responsibility, prudence etc.?

## Application

Group/District/Area Committee submitting this proposal.

[note: this must be a link of service within Massachusetts]

<b>Group or District number and location:</b>	District 22
<b>Area Committee:</b>	

Primary Contact person:

<b>Full Name:</b>	Sharon T.
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### GROUPS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Service Position (if applicable):	AMIAS
Phone:	
Email Address:	

## Project Name

Alateen Outreach/Attraction via Refreshments

Fun, Food and Fellowship for Struggling and Fledgling Alateen Groups in District 22

## Project Description (be as detailed as you can)

We intend to provide refreshments steadily at meetings to bring fun, food and fellowship to the forefront of the meeting experience. Our AMIAS feel very blessed for the opportunity to “carry the message” of Al-Anon to teens, to reach out and support and bring comfort to teens and their families. Food and fellowship are an ideal attraction to multiple teens giving them the opportunity to participate together and find trust and common ground with their peers. They are left wanting to return as they have found harmony in time spent with one another. The intention of the funds is to form strong group(s) over a lengthy time who come to support their own financial needs and desired activities. This application is an unprecedented request for unprecedented times, as are described below in Project Reach.



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### Al-Anon/Alateen Legacies

Which Al-Anon/Alateen Legacies are reflected in your project?

**Step 12:** Our AMIAS feel very blessed for the opportunity to “carry the message” of Al-Anon to teens

**Tradition 5:** ..and to reach out and support and bring comfort to teens and their families.

**Tradition 7:** ..we hope to form strong group(s) over a lengthy time who come to support their own financial needs and desired activities

**Tradition 11:** Food and fellowship are an ideal social attraction to gather multiple teens. They will repeat attendance (continue to be attracted) when they find the experience shows them they are not alone and gives them tools to live with the reality of their circumstances.

### Project Reach

Describe how many members (potential members), groups or districts might be expected to benefit.

Northampton Alateen Group... currently no members

Some history... The Covid epidemic caused a severe drop in Alateen attendance across the state of Massachusetts and, more specifically in District 22. The Northampton Alateen Meeting got underway in the summer of 2019, was held in-person, and was at the same time and site as an existing, long running Al-Anon meeting. For the first eight months, attendance at the meeting was healthy (6-7 teens) each week. Six AMIAS shared responsibility for guiding the meeting. Then in March of 2020, Covid hit. The meeting transitioned immediately to Zoom and continued with same or slightly lower attendance levels. Mid 2021, several teen members aged out or headed off to college. Soon after that, we started Hybrid meetings for three months. Attendance held steady at 2-3 teens. Faced with the necessity to change sites (former in-person site became a performance venue with alcohol on site), we moved the hybrid meeting to new site, new time, new night. Teen attendance was 1, 2, even 3 teens sometimes until falling off completely. The AMIAS mix shifted, but a sufficient number of AMIAS remained to keep meeting in place. In mid 2023, a decision was made to change meeting to another night and time at the



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same place as another long running Al-Anon meeting with hopes of repeating the experience of meeting's initial start up. Unfortunately, with dedicated coverage by the AMIAS group, meeting has taken place but teen attendance has not existed at all for several months. We even tried having pizza available for one week per month for a short period and found that it did not generate repeated attendance week to week by teens. Extraordinary measures are needed to return to pre-Covid attendance levels, here and in other parts of the state. Per discussion with Area Alateen coordinator Don B, accepting this application will allow this to be a "pilot" for Alateen meetings across the state struggling to be revived or started new.

Will neighboring groups or districts also participate in the project or be expected to benefit from this? Not at this time.

Will you be reaching out to anyone in the professional community? (Clergy, counselors, educators, law enforcement, etc.)

We will continue Outreach to announce meeting(s) and addition of fun, food, and fellowship to educators in District 22. We will add additional outreach to clergy, professional counselors, law enforcement, and healthcare groups.

## Project Planning and Implementation

How many members within your Group/District/Area Committee are actively involved in the planning of the project?

Currently 6 AMIAS in District 22. Meaghan S, Jenine D, Dave B, Lisa R, Nic R, Paul G

Estimate how many members will be involved in the implementation.

The AMIAS listed above. For Outreach, we will turn to District Rep, GR's, and general Al-Anon members to help spread the word.



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### Who will lead the project?

The District 22 AMIAS Group. The members of this group meet monthly to review Alateen meeting status and plan further activities. The implementation and effectiveness of the Fun, Food, and Fellowship for Struggling and Fledgling Alateen Groups in District 22 project will be a main focus for this team.

### What links of service will provide support, oversight, and decision making? If you need assistance, the Bequest Committee will help with this.

District 22 Representative and District Treasurer and specific AMIAS for the group involved. The District Treasurer will hold the funds and replenish funds to AMIAS as actual receipts are handed in for expenses.

## Alateens

### If Alateens are directly participating in the project, who are the AMIAS involved?

District 22 AMIAS. Please see AMIAS listed above.

### If prospective Alateens are the focus of the project, how will AMIAS be assisting?

AMIAS will work with Alateens [as membership in group(s) grows] to plan appropriate ongoing refreshments and how, over time, their treasury may come to support them.



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### Cost of Project

Overall expected cost: \$988.25. In addition to cost of pizza, also included is printing of posters to advertise Fun, Food, and Fellowship to all area schools and appropriate community and healthcare groups and replenishment of group literature which is given to new attendees.

Please describe how you arrived at this total?

\$504 1 meeting, \$18 per 1 large pizza for 10 weeks. Thereafter, 1 meeting, \$36 for 2 large pizzas per week, 1 week per month for 9 month if meeting has grown OR meeting size may only warrant 1 large pizza per week and \$18 excess will be used to purchase snacks (popcorn, crackers, or cookies) for remaining weeks of the month

\$300 (100 posters x \$3) for posters printed for all area outreach targets to advertise Fun, Food and Fellowship.

\$184.25 Books, Newcomer Packets, and Various Pamphlets and Booklets for Meetings

See details below..



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1 pizza @ \$18 for 10 weeks180

Subtotal 180

2 pizzas @ \$18 for 9 weeks 324  
(1 week per month for 9 months)

Subtotal 324

TOTAL \$504

Please provide details of estimates you have from any outside vendors. Ex: printing of a banner for Public Outreach event, cost of billboard, printing of posters to distribute, cost of CAL that will be used (including P&H), cost of mailing CAL, formal proposals from any outside vendor or professional consultant, etc.,

Posters: Cost of poster \$3.00 25 schools on our current target list for Northampton Alateen Meeting plus 75 clergy, professional counselors, law enforcement, and healthcare groups . (3 x 100) or \$300

Literature and supplies:

5 Daily Readers for Northampton Meeting @ \$15	\$75.00
5 Daily Readers for Northampton Meeting @ \$11.50	\$57.50
20 Newcomer Packets for Northampton Meeting	\$35.00
Shipping Charge	\$16.75
Total	\$184.25



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Will seed money be needed prior to launch of the project? Please describe.

We may ask District 22 to front end replenishment literature for Northampton Meeting and first 10 weeks of pizza funding.

### Timeline

When would you like to begin this project? As soon as possible.

Include actual dates if appropriate or describe a time span the project would cover.

Bequest will cover approximately one year of existing Northampton meeting pizzas from date of project approval.

Outreach Posters will be printed and distributed as soon as project is approved.

Literature Materials will be purchased as soon as project is approved.

We will, of course, return to the Bequest account any funds not utilized by close of the above time frames.



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Bequest Work Group is available for assistance in completing this Proposal.  
Please contact Bequest@Al-Anonma.org.

Please submit via email to Bequest@Al-Anonma.org.

Date submitted:

9/17/25

***In submitting this proposal, the members involved understand that all requests will be held in confidence by the Bequest Work Group throughout the approval process. Additional information may be requested, and suggestions may be offered. The Group Conscience decision of each reviewing link of service (Bequest Work Group, Steering Committee, AWSC, Assembly) will be independent and respected. If approved, any unspent funding will be returned to the Area within one month of end of project.***

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For Bequest Work Group

Date received by Bequest Work Group: \_\_\_\_\_ 6/30/2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Date acknowledged by Bequest Work Group: \_\_\_\_\_ 6/30/2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Date Bequest Work Group submits for Steering Committee review: \_\_\_\_\_ 8/8/2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Response from Steering Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ 8/19/2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of presentation to AWSC: \_\_\_\_\_ 9/7/2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of presentation to Assembly: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of final approval: \_\_\_\_\_



## PROPOSAL FOR A PROJECT TO BENEFIT AL-ANON /ALATEEN FAMILY GROUPS IN MASSACHUSETTS

# Appendix 1

## Bequests from Al-Anon members to Al-Anon Family Groups of Massachusetts, Inc. Principles and Policy

Approved by Area Steering Committee: 3/20/2022\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Area World Service Committee: 4/3/2022\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Area Assembly: 5/21/2022\_\_\_\_\_

### Principles

1. Policies of AFG of MA will be based on the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual. (Article III of the By-Laws)]
2. By-Laws of Al-Anon Family Groups of Massachusetts, Inc [as revised Nov 3, 1990] Article IX. Finance, Section 5. Individual Contributions/Bequests. " Individual contributions and bequests to AFG of MA, Inc. are accepted as defined for the WSO in the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual at the time the contribution is received." (note: this Policy was created based on 2018-2021 version two pgs 103-104)
3. Tradition Four "Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as a whole."
4. Tradition Six "Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous."
5. Tradition Seven "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."
6. Tradition Twelve "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles above personalities."
7. Concept One " The ultimate responsibility and authority for Al-Anon world services belongs to the Al-Anon groups.
8. Warranty One "Sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve, should be its prudent financial principle."

### Policy

1. AFG of MA may accept a one-time bequest from an Al-Anon member's estate or trust in any amount.
2. Bequest amounts, up to 10% of the total revenue of AFG of MA "General fund" as identified in the previous year's MA Tax Return (Gross Support and Revenue), will be placed in the operating account. See example below.
3. Any excess amount (above the 10% as described above) will be held in a separate account and be reported on monthly.
4. Expenditures from this account will be authorized by the Assembly via approval of the Annual budget or approval of a specific project, and monitored by the Steering Committee.
5. Excess amounts are not available for general purposes, unless authorized by the Assembly.



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6. There will be no public acknowledgment of the gift and the gift may not be earmarked for specific purposes by the donor.

### Example using the bequest received on [date]:

Bequest Amount:

2020 MA Tax Return, Gross Support & Revenue: 10% of MA Tax Return Revenue:

Amount to be placed in the operating account: Excess funds from the bequest:

Funds subject to Assembly authorization:

Funds reported on separately:

\$85,841.85 \$124,874 \$12,487.40 \$12,487.40 \*\* \$73,354.45 \$73,354.45 \$73,354.45

\*\* All expenditures from the operating account are determined by the Annual Budget approved by the Assembly.

### Appendix 2

## Criteria for Assessing Proposals

### Requirements:

The proposal must meet these criteria to be moved forward. If it does not meet these criteria, then it will be returned to the applicant for discussion.

1. The applicant must be a member of a meeting in Area 25, or part of the service structure of Area 25.
2. The project must primarily benefit members or potential members residing within Area 25.
3. The proposal must reflect Al-Anon Legacies.

### Criteria for Evaluation:

The Bequest Work Group will consider Tradition Seven and Concepts Three, Four, Nine and Ten as they review all proposals.

The following criteria are used to help assess impact, practicality, and cost of the proposals.

They may help determine the possibility of the success of the project. They may help an assessment of whether this is a prudent use of funds (as we are financial stewards). They may be useful if it becomes necessary to choose between projects (e.g., if funds become low). These criteria may become part of presenting the proposals to the Assembly.

- How many groups or people would be impacted?
- Does this proposal align with any existing goals of the Area?
- Are there people or entities ready to carry out the proposal? How many will be involved?



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- How long will the proposal take to accomplish?
- Does the proposal require multiple steps or actions that would make implementation difficult?
- Is the overall cost of the proposal a prudent use of available funds?

May 2023