

# Please Share in Writing on Sponsorship and Service Sponsorship

The 2023 World Service Conference gave conceptual approval “to develop a comprehensive piece on sponsorship and service sponsorship using personal stories from Al-Anon members.” Please share your experiences with sponsorship—the benefits as well as the challenges—so we can all learn from each other how to effectively use these important recovery tools.

## Please consider answering any of the following questions:

- How soon did I get a Sponsor? Become a Sponsor?
- What, if anything, has kept me from finding or becoming a Sponsor?
- What qualities do I look for in a Sponsor?
- What impact has having or being a Sponsor had on my recovery?
- Were the parameters of my sponsorship relationship a good fit for both of us?
- Have I studied the Steps, Traditions, or Concepts of Service with a Sponsor or someone I sponsor?
- What have I learned from having or being a Sponsor?
- What did I do if my needs were not being met by having or being a Sponsor?
- Which of Al-Anon’s spiritual principles apply to having or being a Sponsor?

- Why do (or don’t) I have a Service Sponsor? Why am (or aren’t) I a Service Sponsor?
- How is my Service Sponsor different from my personal Sponsor?
- How am I different as a Service Sponsor than as a personal Sponsor?
- Which of Al-Anon’s spiritual principles apply to having or being a Service Sponsor?

## Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Share personal experience from the heart, focusing on yourself, not the alcoholic or others.
- Write in the first person singular—“I.” Please avoid the use of the pronoun “you.”
- Avoid generalities, outside issues, treatment center language, and religious philosophy or doctrine.
- Kindly observe Al-Anon’s Twelve Traditions when sharing.

If printed, your sharing will remain anonymous, but please include your name and postal or email address so that we can acknowledge receipt.

If not used, your sharing will be forwarded to the *Forum* Editorial Advisory Committee for review. If published in *The Forum*, you will be notified by letter and receive a complimentary copy of the issue in which your article appears.

Note: All sharings become the property of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., and may be used in whole or in part to develop Al-Anon/Alateen printed or electronic material.

**Please photocopy and distribute locally.**

**Please mail, fax,  
email or submit your  
completed sharing to:**

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.  
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617  
Attn: Sponsorship Piece

Fax: 757-563-1656  
Email: [wso@al-anon.org](mailto:wso@al-anon.org) (Please put  
“Sponsorship Piece” in the subject line.)  
Online: [al-anon.org/sharing](http://al-anon.org/sharing)