S-ANON
International
Family Groups

S-ATEEN: INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP SPONSORSHIP

S-ATEEN GROUP SPONSORSHIP

S-Ateen meetings for young people ages 12-19 affected by another's sexual behavior are conducted separately from those of S-Anon and are guided by adult S-Anon members serving as S-Ateen Group Sponsors. Two S-Ateen Group Sponsors must be present at each S-Ateen meeting. An S-Ateen Group Sponsor is a qualified S-Anon member certified through the S-Ateen service training process. An S-Ateen Group Sponsor has made a commitment to be of service to a local S-Ateen meeting on a regular basis or for specific S-Anon events, such as a marathons, local, regional, or international conventions, or virtual S-Ateen meetings. Additionally, S-Ateen Group Sponsors must:

1. Be an S-Anon member regularly attending S-Anon meetings.
2. Have completed or be working the S-Anon Twelve Steps with an S-Anon sponsor.
3. Have at least two years in S-Anon in addition to any time spent in S-Ateen.
4. Be at least 21 years old.
5. Not have been convicted of a felony.
6. Not have been charged with child abuse or any other inappropriate sexual behavior, or been convicted of any offence involving sexual misconduct or physical violence against children or adults.

Most S-Ateen groups start with two S-Ateen Group Sponsors. Some groups have four or more sponsors and create a rotating schedule that provides for at least two sponsors in attendance at each meeting.

S-Ateen Group Sponsors take their turn during the meeting to share on a topic, Step, or Tradition, along with the teens. The Group Sponsors share from their "teen years" and what they may remember growing up. This gives the teens an opportunity to hear other members' stories. It's strongly suggested that a Group Sponsor not be the parent of an S-Ateen member in the meeting room. Even if the parent insists there are no family secrets, it can result in a teen not feeling free to share in the meeting.

It is important to remember that the S-Ateen meeting belongs to the teens. The meetings are for the teens and run by them, whereas the S-Ateen Group Sponsors act as "guides" to ensure the Meeting Guidelines and Traditions are followed. Additionally, the S-Ateen Group Sponsors' role is to ensure the meetings remain a safe place for the teens. It may also be helpful to refer to the Alateen pamphlet A Guide for Sponsors of Alateen Groups (P-29).

S-ATEEN INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIP

S-Ateen individual sponsorship is a mutual and confidential one-on-one sharing between two fellow S-Ateen members who wish to work the Steps or discuss their personal problems or issues in more detail than what is shared during a meeting. S-Ateen individual sponsors are willing to share their experience, strength, and hope gained from working the S-Ateen program. S-Anon members currently do not sponsor S-Ateen members. Certified S-Ateen Group Sponsors are willing to temporarily sponsor S-Ateen members until S-Ateen member-to-member/peer sponsors are available. As the S-Ateen fellowship grows and more S-Ateen members gain personal recovery, the goal is for S-Ateen members to individually sponsor fellow members. It is suggested that S-Ateen members work up to Step Five before sponsoring another member.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR S-ATEEN

Additional resources include the following pieces of S-Ateen Literature, which are available as free downloads from www.sanon.org.

S-ATEEN: INFORMATION ABOUT SPONSORSHIP AND MEETINGS (L-12ST)
S-ATEEN: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (P-26ST)
S-ATEEN: SUGGESTIONS FOR MEETING TOPICS (P-2ST)
S-ATEEN: SUGGESTED MEETING FORMAT (L-24ST)
S-ATEEN: RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT (L-22ST)

The following Alateen resources are available as well as other helpful Alateen literature at al-anon.alateen.org.

ALATEEN SAFETY GUIDELINES (G-34)
A GUIDE FOR SPONSORS OF ALATEEN GROUPS (P-29)

Please contact the WSO for new or updated information that may not have been available at the time of this publication.

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