

"... this was the great contribution of our atheists and agnostics. They had widened our gateway so that all who suffer might pass through, regardless of their belief or *lack of belief*..."

Bill W., Co-founder of AA in Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, p. 167

"Quad-A" is Alcoholics Anonymous for Atheists, Agnostics and *Anyone Else* with a desire to stop drinking.

As part of AA, Quad-A is for anyone who is:

- ✓ new to AA;
- ✓ currently in AA;
- ✓ being referred to AA;
- ✓ seeking sobriety; and,
- ✓ willing to be open minded and focus on sober life skills

We offer this information both for people who have or may have a drinking problem and for those in contact with people who have or seem to have a drinking problem. This information particularly addresses those with a drinking problem who also are disaffected by or uninterested in conventional concepts of "God" or a "Higher Power." This has been reviewed and authorized as an expression of the collective conscience of the groups listed.

Where Can You Find AA for Atheists and Agnostics?

(Quad-A in Chicago has been meeting since 1975)

SUNDAY 5:00 pm (Closed)

We Agnostics

Unitarian Universalist Church—Library
4848 Turner St., Rockford, IL 61107

SUNDAY 7:00 pm (Closed; Open 1st Sunday)

Oak Park Quad-A

Gale House
124 N Kenilworth, Oak Park, IL 60301

SUNDAY 7:00 pm (Open)

Evanston Quad-A (Open)

McGaw YMCA
1000 Grove St., Evanston, IL 60202

MONDAY 7:00 pm (Closed; Open 1st Monday)

Alano Quad-A Atheists & Agnostics

Alano Club
5555 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60625

MONDAY 7:00 pm (Closed)

Elgin Atheists, Agnostics & Everyone

Presence St. Joseph Hospital, St. Mary Room
77 N. Airlite St., Elgin, IL 60123

TUESDAY 6:30 pm (Closed)

Atheist/Agnostic Free Spirit Group

Unitarian Church
656 W Barry, Chicago, IL 60657

WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm (Closed)

Wicker Park Humanist AA

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Rectory Basement
1121 N. Leavitt St., Chicago IL 60622

WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm (Closed)

Hyde Park AAAA

Hyde Park Union Church
5600 S Woodlawn, Chicago, IL 60637

WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm (Closed)

NW Suburban Quad-A

Schaumburg Public Library
130 S Roselle Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60193

THURSDAY 7:00 pm (Closed)

Oak Park Discussion & Problem Solving

West Suburban Medical Center, Rm C & D
3 Erie Ct., Oak Park, IL 60302

THURSDAY 7:00 pm (Open)

Evanston Quad-A

McGaw YMCA
1000 Grove St., Evanston, IL 60202

THURSDAY 6:45 PM (Closed; Open 1st Thursday)

Lombard Atheists, Agnostics & Everyone

Sunset Knoll Fitness Center
820 S. Finley Rd., Lombard, IL 60148

SATURDAY 11:15 am (Closed)

Chicago Humanist, Atheists & Agnostics

United Church
615 W Wellington, Chicago, IL 60657

SATURDAY 4:15 pm (Closed)

Free Spirit Quad-A

United Church
615 W Wellington, Chicago, IL 60657

What Is Quad-A?

All AA meetings have their own special characteristics. AA members, especially newcomers, are urged to attend various meetings to find those that are most helpful to them. Quad-A is the common reference for group meetings attended predominately by atheists, agnostics and humanists; however, **anyone** with a desire to stop drinking is welcome. Quad-A meetings function no differently than other AA meetings. Quad-A allows recovering alcoholics to gather on a regular basis as autonomous groups using the suggested Twelve Steps for the individual and the Twelve Traditions for the group as a foundation for recovery and spiritual growth. Quad-A members share their experiences and learn how to live sober and rewarding lives. Like any other AA group, Quad-A meetings are for **all** people with a desire to stop drinking. There are no other requirements; there are no other qualifications.

"To us the Realm of Spirit is broad, roomy, all inclusive; never exclusive or forbidding to those who earnestly seek. It is open, we believe, to all ... " (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 46).

Quad-A acknowledges recovering persons may have valid and fulfilling sobriety with or without belief in a Higher Power as traditionally understood. Many who attend Quad-A meetings regularly, understand the concepts of a "Power greater than ourselves" and "God, as we understood Him" are interpreted differently by the individual or ignored altogether. For some it is AA or the group itself. Quad-A members have been reared with and without various forms of religious training and prefer to refrain from proselytizing for or against any particular creed or faith system. Quad-A accepts the beliefs of the individual without contempt, condescension or approbation.

What Quad-A Does ...

1. We seek sobriety.
2. We go to meetings.
3. We share our experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem; we give person-to-person service or "sponsorship" to the alcoholic coming to AA from any source.
4. We stress faith in sobriety and recovery and applaud all people, religious and nonreligious, who use AA to stay sober and build a new life.
5. We believe in the advancement of individual human dignity and self-worth.

What Quad-A Does Not Do ...

1. We do not promote any secular, religious or nonreligious philosophy or point of view. We are not bound to any theology or doctrine. Instead, we suggest AA's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. We feel that whatever-keeps-you-sober, as long as it keeps you sober, is OK.
2. We do not force our views on others. We do not demand you declare your religious affiliations or your lack of them. We do not demand that you do the Twelve Steps "our way."
3. We do not avoid personal suffering. We embrace, wholeheartedly, anyone who is having a difficult time separating from alcohol.

Conclusion

Quad-A groups, like all AA groups, are ongoing support systems where alcoholics can share their experience, strength and hope to build new lives that are rich with promise. Regardless of the road we follow, we all head for the same destination-recovery of the alcoholic person. There is hope.

This program works if you work it, and there are all kinds of help available to help you work it. Together, we can do what none of us could accomplish alone. We invite you to join us in our pursuit of sobriety and serenity.