



Al-Anon Family Groups  
Strength and hope for friends and families of problem drinkers

phone: 757.563.1600  
fax: 757.563.1655

www.al-anon.alateen.org  
wso@al-anon.org

To: Conference Members  
From: Robert Schneider, Communication Services Director  
Re: Anonymity and Twelfth Step work  
Date: January 23, 2015

The Board of Trustees has assigned a strategic goal to the WSO's Communication Services Section:

“To increase members’ willingness to participate in Twelfth Step work.”

The urgency and importance of this goal is obvious. Al-Anon’s ability to help families of alcoholics—our primary purpose—depends upon the volunteer efforts of members who practice the Twelve Steps, provide encouragement and understanding to alcoholic relatives, and welcome and give comfort to families of alcoholics (Tradition Five). Increased *willingness* to participate in Twelfth-Step work could increase the vitality of our groups, strengthen our service structure, and help more friends and family members of alcoholics to find hope and strength at Al-Anon meetings.

A survey was completed to determine the level of member participation in service that exists today and also identify any factors that may hold members back from participating more. The Survey indicated that some members were reluctant to participate in Twelfth-Step work because they were concerned that they might break their anonymity as Al-Anon members.

Consequently, in the past year, short articles on anonymity have appeared in *The Forum*, *Area Highlights*, *Group e-News*, and other publications.

Additional information about anonymity will be shared with the fellowship in the coming year, including articles about the newly revised pamphlet, *Why Anonymity in Al-Anon?* (P-33), a PowerPoint slide presentation for members’ use, as well as the *Best of Public Outreach*, an on-line service tool (available on the Members’ Web site) that includes extensive information about anonymity in Al-Anon service.

**Comment [RB1]:** Not sure what this refers to?  
All of these pieces, the Members’ Web site, or///

Do not hesitate to contact the WSO for more information about this strategic goal and its objectives.