

HOW TO START AN OA MEETING

- 1) Make a commitment to starting the meeting. You'll need to stick with it until it is up and running and this may take some time, probably months.
- 2) Ask a friend to help spread the word. Two people spreading the word are better than one. It's good to have feedback and encouragement.
- 3) Ask the WSO to help. Their web site has a kit for starting meetings (see below), with all of the different types of formats available.
- 4) Pick a location. Availability of public transportation and/or cheap parking is very desirable.
- 5) Pick a day and time. If there are really strong meetings already in existence for the time you have in mind, it might be difficult to attract people.
- 6) Register with WSO. Registration with the WSO helps them keep track of your good work. It also puts you on the national meeting database which is the national meeting list.
- 7) Print up flyers and distribute them at other meetings you attend.
- 8) Notify your intergroup. Make sure they know that you need to be on their meeting databases, telephone, online and hard copy.
- 9) Wait a week. Then, check the automated telephone line and the online directory to make sure the meeting is being announced. If not, call and tell them again.
- 10) Decide the qualifications for meeting chairs and treasurers and begin to carry that message.
- 11) Be self supporting through the 7th Tradition.
- 12) The WSO is ready to help you, starting with their on-line catalog of informational literature, www.oa.org. They have titles for starting and re-invigorating meetings. Some of these include:

New Group Starter Kit
Group Meeting Record Book
Suggested Meeting Format
Twelfth-Step-Within Handbook*
Recovery from Relapse Meeting Format
Together We Can . . . Keep Coming Back!
Young People's Meeting Kit