

# Introduction to SDIAC (San Diego H&I)

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This introduction does not replace San Diego Imperial Area Institutional Committee Policy and Guidelines. All SDIAC members are responsible for knowing the contents of that document and are urged to read it.

**SDIAC**, in harmony with Tradition 9, and as a part of San Diego Imperial Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous, provides local AA members with the opportunity to carry the AA message and AA General Service Conference approved literature into institutions.

**INSTITUTIONS** are places where men and women are confined for medical, mental, corrective or rehabilitative purposes. Institutions include hospitals, jails and detoxification centers.

**SDIAC** Members enter institutions as invited guests ever mindful of Tradition 6, "...such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement..." Anyone in AA can become an SDIAC member by attending an Orientation Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. The monthly Business Meeting is held after the Orientation Meeting on Sunday. Membership is maintained by attending at least one Business Meeting every three months. SDIAC assumes responsibility only for members or panels held by its members.

**SDIAC** Panels are much like AA Groups or Meetings. SDIAC Panels visit institutions on a regularly scheduled time and day of the week.

**Panel Coordinators** (2 years sobriety minimum) in cooperation with the Treatment or Corrections Chairperson coordinate panels and guide the members, much like an AA Secretary.

**Panel Leaders** (1 year sobriety minimum) conduct the meetings in cooperation with the Panel Coordinator. Leaders take responsibility for one or more weekly meetings of each monthly cycle.

**Panel Members** (6 months sobriety minimum) attend and contribute in cooperation with the Panel Leader. They commit themselves to attend one or more weekly meetings of the monthly cycle.

**Panel Visitors** (3 months sobriety minimum) attend at the invitation and under the close guidance of the Panel Coordinator or Panel Leader.

**PROBLEMS WITH INSTITUTIONS** are handled by SDIAC Elected Officers ONLY. Panel Members WILL NOT discuss problems with institutional officials. Although it is usually better for members to deal with their next-in-line of responsibility, any SDIAC member can communicate directly with any SDIAC Elected Officer at any time.

**SDIAC ELECTED OFFICERS** coordinate all SDIAC activities, policies, public relations and procedures. They appoint and guide panel members in their duties and tasks. Elected Officers are:

- |               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| § Director    | § Treatment Committee Chairperson  |
| § Co-Director | § Correction Committee Chairperson |
| § Treasurer   | § Assistant Treasurer              |

**DO NOT EMBARRASS SDIAC OR AA.** Special rules govern each institution. Consult SDIAC Policy & Guidelines or Officers.

It is a **Felony** to carry alcohol, drugs or weapons into an institution. State Law forbids giving money to or carrying correspondence in or out for an inmate of an institution. We do not carry messages of any kind, written or oral, into or out of institutions. Ex-inmates come under special rules. Be sure to check with the institution.

Cigarettes, matches and lighters are usually controlled. Ask before taking in anything!

Obscene or vulgar talk or off-color jokes are deeply frowned on.

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that...

**I AM RESPONSIBLE**

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