

Sponsorship

The Role Of A Sponsor

1. A sponsor can be there to discuss issues in detail that are too personal or would take too much time in a meeting.
2. A sponsor is there to model Christ's grace and forgiveness, and to give a sense of perspective.
3. A sponsor is available in times of crisis or potential relapse.
4. A sponsor serves as a sounding board by providing an objective point of view.
5. A sponsor is there to encourage an individual to work the principles at their own speed.
6. A sponsor attempts to model the lifestyle that results from working the eight principles.

Qualities Of A Sponsor

1. Lives the eight principles.
2. Exhibits a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
3. Expresses a desire to help others on the road to recovery.
4. Shows compassion, care, and hope, but not pity.
5. Shows a willingness to listen.
6. Strong enough to confront denial or procrastination.
7. Willing to offer suggestions.
8. Open in sharing their own current struggles.

Helpful Suggestions For A Sponsor

Before agreeing to sponsor someone, meet with them and discuss some of the following things with them. This should help both parties be clear before entering this relationship.

1. A sponsor can resign or be fired. This is not a lifelong commitment.
2. Agree on the length of time for the sponsorship. Will it be for the 4th and 5th step only or for more than that?
3. Discuss expectations before agreeing to be a sponsor. What do they want from you? What do you expect them to do?
4. Agree with each other on how you will interact. Will you call them? Will they call you? How much time do they want? How much time can you give?
5. Set specific times to get together and evaluate how the relationship is working.
6. Agree on how the relationship can be ended. Discuss this ahead of time so no one feels rejected or uncomfortable if this happens.