

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.

DISTRICT 41 NEEDS A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN TO STAFF AN AA 12TH STEP OFFICE!

In District 41 we no longer want to entrust processing of our 12th step calls to paid non-alcoholics who cannot appreciate the possibility of a life-or-death situation.

In order to answer our own phones, we need a few volunteers to sit in our office and answer the phone. We'd like to keep the office open from 9 to 9, Monday through Friday. The rest of the time (off hours), our phone will be answered by a computer using district 42's automated answering service program. This will also be our backup in case someone can't take his/her shift.

"Requirements" for an office volunteer? Sobriety, Dependability, Gratitude, Minimal Office Skills

Sobriety: You should have a "reasonable amount" of continuous sobriety – at least a year. (If in doubt, ask your sponsor.) You should have worked at least into Step 9 with your sponsor. You should have all 12 Steps in your life on a daily basis.

Dependability: If you sign up for a shift, BE THERE. If you can't be there, arrange for someone (who is qualified) to cover for you. Be on time. The person you are relieving can't leave until you are there and s/he has things to do, also. (With enough notice, the Committee may be able to help you find a sub.)

Gratitude: A deep appreciation for the Fellowship and Program of Alcoholics Anonymous – how the people and Steps have changed your life. And a deep desire to pass this on to the newcomer. For many people coming into AA, you are the initial point of contact, their first impression.

Minimal Office Skills: The list of volunteers you will need to call will be kept on the computer. As we gain experience, we hope to make that retrieval easier. You may need to re-boot the computer (turn it off and on). Occasionally you may be asked to print, fold, address, stamp the District Newsletter or a flier for a District function.

We realize that sitting around for 4 hours waiting for the phone to ring can be extremely boring. So we will provide a coffee pot and supplies, including tea and cocoa, and a water filtration pitcher. Also an AA library, including a Grapevine Subscription. And the internet. (All we ask is that you behave on the internet as if your parents and children were looking over your shoulder.) The computer will also have an assortment of games. Please use your own logon for the games. (If you louse up "Pokey's" FreeCell stats I WILL HUNT YOU DOWN!) If you'd like to donate any LEGAL copies of games, go for it. Once again, we stress suitability. No smut or violence please.

You are welcome to use the computer for e-mail, personal correspondence, projects you are working on, etc. We strongly urge you to invest in a couple of memory sticks and keep ALL your personal stuff

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(except game statistics) on your stick. Anything on the hard drive can, and probably will, be read by all other office volunteers!

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9:00 AM					
10:00 AM					
11:00 AM					
Noon					
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM					
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM					
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM					

You will also have time to work on your AA program. From pondering the Big Book, the 12 & 12, or other literature to catching up on the Grapevine, working on your meditation skills, working on your 4th step, working on a 5th step with your sponsor or sponsee, working with a sponsee while introducing him/her to Service Work.

When can you serve? It would make scheduling easy if everyone could work 9-1, 1-5, or 5-9. But making our lives easy never seems to rate at the top of anyone else's priority list, so we'll take whatever we can get. Our goal is to have the office occupied by at least one person 9-9, Mon-Fri. If you aren't available every week, maybe you have a friend you could alternate with.

If you can't fit these hours in, what hours would you prefer?

Name (Please print legibly)

Address

City

State

Zip

E-mail

Phone

Please return this to your GSR, to be passed to the Answering Service Committee at the next District meeting. Or mail it to:

PO Box 6365

VILLA PARK, IL 60181-5318

ANSWERING SERVICE

Revised January, 2010

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Our Office:

District 41 Answering Service (630-833-7897)

First Congregational Church of Elmhurst

235 S. Kenilworth (Church & Kenilworth)

(Entrance on Church Street)

Elmhurst, IL 60126-3407

(Top Floor, East Wing, SW Corner)