

BRIDGING THE GAP REPORT 2015 SUMMER ASSEMBLY

Good morning fellow AA Members

It seems the Bridging the Gap Committee is well under way. We have Guidelines, budgetary system here in Area 20, excited volunteers active in some facilities, looking to be of service in other facilities. Because of the numbers of requests for bridge contacts and from many different cities, and sometimes the requests are immediate and timely, the need is obvious for a large database to cover Area 20 and beyond. I am going to e-mail requests to all DCMs after today. But you can help today by filling in your contact info on sheets we have here today. Or ask me for sheets to take to your Groups and get them back to Mike or myself. By doing so you agree to us giving your info to a facility or individual volunteer when needed. We will inform you when this occurs.

We have selected two people to attend the Bridging the Gap Weekend Workshop in Park City Utah in September due to Alternate Chair Mike H. and I being unable to attend. They are BTG Committee members Jessica R. and Bill B., both of Elgin. Thank you for doing this and agreeing to report back to Area 20 upon return.

ACTIVITY SINCE SPRING ASSEMBLY:

I was unable to attend the April 11th Pre-Conference Workshop because of work and the May 9th Committee Meeting because of a wedding.

May 2- I was at a Concepts Workshop in Iowa and was unable to attend, But Alternate BTG Chair Mike H. attended a CPC Workshop in District 10 that was well attended and very successful in generating information and excitement about that very important work.

May 4- First BTG Meeting at Share in Hoffman Estates, the local committee asked Carol H. and I to attend the first meeting with them. That local committee is well underway, doing good work, with respect from staff and clients.

May 27- Attended an orientation type meeting at LSSI in Elgin, conducted by the staff of that facility

May 30-Bridging the Gap Workshop in Elgin, had to arrive late because of work. People left very excited about this work. Meeting was moderated by Area 20 Treatment Chair Weezie along with help and participation by Dan L., Area 20 Corrections Chair.

June 7- Carol H. and I attended District 22 Business Meeting. I was requested to participate because District 22 is considering starting a Bridging the Gap Committee. I talked about our local BTG Committee and Carol talked about Bridging the Gap, Bridging the Gap history and Bridging the Gap Weekend Workshop.

FUTURE DATES:

July 11- Bridging the Gap Workshop, Johnson Lecture Hall, Kankakee, Ill.

August 22- District 42 Workshop, Bridging the Gap Between Treatment and Correctional Facilities, Christ Church of Oakbrook.

I'm very excited about this committee and watching it take shape. It definitely has potential to be the most active committee here in Area 20. And I see the people that are excited about it, and I am confident in this committee's upcoming leadership and into the extended future.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE A PART OF THIS

Rich

Rich H.
Area 20 Bridging the Gap Chair