Subject: Corona Virus and guidelines to AA Fellowship in India from AA GSO India  
(Message from AA GSO India: After online WTM:19/March/2020)

Corona Virus Threat and AA meetings and related AA gatherings:

1) GSO India has already posted suggested Guidelines from Government of India (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare), Indian Medical Association (on care to be taken) and guidelines from AA GSO, New York, USA and these are available in "Members Area" of AA GSO India website on 08/Mar/2020 www.aagsoindia.org/coronavirus-update/

Further, on 15/03/2020 Government of India has declared *Corona as a National Disaster* and pandemic which requires quarantine.
As a result trains from specific metros have been cancelled and gatherings have been restricted (based on location, venue or State Government notifications in various parts of India).

We are also nearing the 3rd phase (mass spread or spread through non-isolated communities) of this pandemic disaster.

There are Central Govt and State Govt announcements in news bulletins (radio, newspaper, TV, ring tone messages, help lines etc). With particular reference to AA India, here are some precedences and points for consideration at group / service entity level:

Board of Trustees' of AA India meeting due to be held in Mumbai 16-18 March 2020 has been converted into an online meeting, after group conscious decision and this is after the Venue (Sarvodaya) closed its doors for any gathering, following Maharashtra State Govt Notification and BoT will be held on line on 04/04/20.

Similarly, AA Groups and Service Entities in different parts of India have decided on group conscience, to keep AA Meetings open (with precautions like masks, sanitizers, hand wash facilities, no hand shakes or hugging), or with alternate means (with phone-in or online meetings), avoiding Al Anon / Al Ateen combined meetings, postponing mass gatherings like anniversaries or gratitude days (examples, that have come to the notice of GSO by whatsapp or mail, are given below, as far as possible, avoiding names of persons, but group, IG / DC or location is given).

1) AA Meetings are the life line for AAs.
2) Still, exposing AAs to virus threat, without proper precautions or alternate methods, can be harmful to AA as a whole.
3) Let us go by our Tradition-4:
"Groups are autonomous, except in matters, affecting other groups or AA as a whole"
4) Exposure to Corona does matter now, in using public transport both ways for attending AA meetings and gatherings and sitting together without knowing if there are any "known or unknown carriers" in the meeting or its vicinity.
5) AA also rests on collective experience being shared and given below are some decisions by groups and Service Entities from different parts of India.
Let us exercise similar cautions and "let us all be responsible..!"

Sincerely yours in Service of AA,

General Secretary,
A A GSO India
Mumbai

Nationwide collective experiences and group conscious decisions, in view of Corona and AA Meetings / Gatherings:

ONLINE MEETING - TRIAL or MOCK MTG
Due to CORONA VIRUS,
SCHOOLS, COLLEGES and CHURCHES are closed.
Those who want to attend today "ONLINE AA MEETING" can join a mock meeting or trailer meeting to have further meetings regularly online: TIME - 8.30 - 9.30 PM
PARTICIPATION: GSR, CHAIRMAN, PI CHAIRMAN And AAs.
Kindly be present without fail.
"You Don’t Have to Stop AA MEETING, Just Do It Differently."
Important: Confidential to AA Members
Not to Be Forwarded Under Any Circumstances (closed group)
...https://chat.whatsapp.com/...further link removed....

22 Mar 2020 நாட்டின் முழுமையுள்ள பூர்வடான சிவகாசி A A குழுக்களின் 8வது ஆண்டுவிழா மாற்றங்களுக்காக குறிப்பிட்டும் புதியத்தின் பதிலாக ஆண்டுவிழா மாற்றப்பட்டும்.
Translation:
8th year Anniversary of AA Sivakasi Groups, stands postponed. New date will be announced soon.
Sivakasi AA, Madurai Area, S TN Region.

Burdwan WB: Keeping in view of the current crisis due to corona virus, earlier announced celebration meeting of...... on 21.03.2020 at Lions Club, Burdwan, Kolkata has been postponed. We regret inconvenience. Once the scenario get settled, we will announce the new date and venue. Thank you.

Dear esteemed fellow members AA Kolkata,
We are all aware of the pandemic situation related to Corona Virus and its rapid spread all over India including in our Kolkata.
Chetana group members had an urgent and detailed discussion considering various suggestions by members, directives by Government, at Centre & State and WHO. Based on that, following decisions are taken for safety and precaution:
1) Chetana Group meetings suspended on immediate basis, till further notice.
2) A member’s birthday celebration, scheduled on 22/03/20 is postponed till further notice.
3) Request members to pass on the above message to other groups and also on personal WhatsApp, wherever possible.
Thank you

Friends,
We met today Father of Holy Name, who has granted permission to conduct AA meeting. Therefore, as usual Gateway group, Colaba, Mumbai meeting is there today from 7-8.30pm.
Those members who want to attend are requested to wear face masks or cover their mouths. Hand sanitizer has been kept for use of our members, as a precautionary measure.

AA Samarpan Group meetings
As per the Government of Maharashtra advisory and as per church authorities, there will be no A.A. meetings to be held at Nazareth High School, Bhayandar West, from 21st March 2020 till we receive further notice. Schedule for meeting will be intimated as per the prevailing conditions.

Thank you

AA Group of Courage, Health High School, Sahar Village, Andheri East meeting on Thursday 7:30-9 PM stands cancelled till further notice. Please inform others.

The Parish Priest, attached to St Sebastian Goan High School where AA meetings are held on every Tuesday and Saturday, has informed us today that as per Govt guidelines there are to be certain restrictions on activities on Church premises.

Hence, the group, popularly known as the Dabul Group, located behind S.K. Patil Garden, Charni Road will not host AA meetings till at least 31st March 2020 or until further notice.

The group also decided that due to restrictions in and around the school, Japanese garden, Marine drive parapet, no alternate provision is available now to hold meetings in alternate spots.

Due to Covid 19 and section 144 provisions by the Government, the Canossian Sisters have requested AA members of AA Canossa Group not to conduct AA meetings till further notice. Hence we wish to inform all AA members that AA Canossa Group, Mahakali Caves Rd., Andheri East, meetings are cancelled till further information.

Today’s developments in AA as made available today (Ref: Covid-19 following Government and advisories), the group was informed in a call from St. Xaviers group sources that Father has told security to give 1 corner classroom for AA meeting.

So those members whose groups have closed temporarily can come today to St. Xavier’s College, Dhobi Talao, between 7-8.30 pm.

Please forward in other groups also.

Members are requested to wear face masks & take utmost precaution. No shaking hands or embracing.

As per government of Maharashtra advisory, there will be no A.A. meetings held at the Dadar A.A. Group at Our Lady of Salvation Church, from today the 18th of March 2020, till we receive further notice.

Thank you,

Lonavala meetings cancelled:

Members are invited for an informal meeting at Wilson Smith recovery center

Cont: 9967XXXXXX

No meetings till 31st March at Mount Serene group, St Francis High School, Mt. Poisar Road, Borivili West

From: AA Salem Intergroup <aasalemig@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 9:11 PM

To: <deephxxxxxx@gmail.com>

Cc: drxxxxxxx@hotmail.com

Subject: Regarding corana virus precautions-

Sir,

Salem Intergroup has decided to follow these precautions during this disaster period:
1) Two or three home group members, new comers and persons who want to share (burning desire) are requested to attend the meeting.
2) Try to avoid Al-Anon and Al-Ateen.
3) No hand shake and hugs. Every group is requested to provide hand wash.
4) If the meeting place in-charge refuses to permit to conduct meeting, group can find a comfortable place to do so.
5) For this period, creating whatsapp group to share (only voice).

Regards,
In service
P. R
Secretary,
Salem Intergroup

In keeping with the overall situation and Government guidelines on social distancing, 14th AA gratitude day of ...... scheduled for Sunday 29 March at Pali Evening Group, Bandra, Mumbai stands cancelled. There will be no regular meeting also at this group on that day as per instructions received from the Parish priest (no meetings here, till 31 March). At the right time, another date will be announced

Those are examples from own fellowship, abiding by the law of the land in different states and guidelines from expert agencies in different Area and Regions.
Each group / AA Service entity can choose to remain unchanged, but with due precautions or change along the lines of above examples of group conscious decisions and considering the nature of serious health threat, let us stand united, but forewarned.

This message is an official guideline to AA Fellowship in India: AA GSB India / GS-KV / Guideline for AA Mtgs and gatherings under threat of Corona/ 2019-20 dated 20.Mar.2020