

**May is National Mental Health Month** and I'm thrilled to tell you that District 4 participated in the first LIVE outdoor Public Outreach event in over a year. On May 2nd they set up a Public Outreach table with Al-Anon and Alateen pamphlets, business cards, bookmarks, pens and AFAs the Public Outreach magazine, at Fowler Field pavilion for the 2nd Annual Milford Coastline Challenge & Music Fest for Mental Health. They said, "...we had people stop by that expressed interest and need. For example, I had a young fellow who just came home from rehab pick up information for his parents, one young gal had been a member of Alateen and was now a high school teacher and she took Alateen info to put on her desk. Also a woman who attends a parent's support group for children with mental health issues took a lot of business cards and bookmarks. I definitely think it was worth our time (and we got to see program friends in person!) and would do it again next year!" This is FANTASTIC!

May is a great month to reach out to Therapists, Counselors, Mental Health providers and facilites. Click on the links highlighted in blue to receive valuable information for your projects. These can be emailed to fellow members and/or professionals.

- Guidelines G29.pdf
- Fact Sheet for Professionals
- Electronic magazine link <u>Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism</u>
- Link to current schedule <u>CT Al-Anon meetings by day</u>
- Detachment

On May 22nd and 23rd District 4 will be setting up again, this time at the Women's Better Living Expo in Bridgeport. Each event is an opportutity to help inform people in our communities about the Al-Anon/Alateen program. What outdoor events will be happening in your towns or districts this spring, summer and fall? Does your group or district want to participate? If you have questions about events, contact your District Public Outreach Coordinator or attend an Area Public Outreach meeting. Contact Kathe at <u>PublicOutreach@ctalanon.org</u>

The April PO meeting was attended by District PO Coordinators, Group PO members, our Spanish Liaison and Alateen Coordinator. We had the opportunity to discuss and share project ideas and materials. There are so many different projects underway. District 6 provided a Forum article written by a clinical psychologist. District 8 continues to focus on electronic and print newspapers in both english and spanish while others have strong connections with Hartford and St. Francis Hospitals. A member from District 1 shared her positive experience delivering business cards to fire stations and now wants to expand to libraries. District 3 talked about the success of holding their PO meetings after their Saturday meeting and how many members stay to participate. Now they've decided to reach out to the New Haven police.

Members, groups and districts are doing fantastic work! Thank you to everyone who participates in Public Outreach. Just by reading this at your district and group meetings is an important part of Public Outreach. We do not do this alone.

Area Public Outreach Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Please consider joining us May 18th at 7pm. For more information about Public Outreach contact Kathe at <u>PublicOutreach@ctalanon.org</u> or your alternate district representative.

With gratitude, Kathe