

# SPONSOR-A-GROUP STARTER KIT

## D.A. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

In D.A., our purpose is threefold: *to stop incurring unsecured debt, to share our experience with the newcomer, and to reach out to other debtors.*

Hello Debtors Anonymous!

With many under-served and under-represented regions in both the United States and across the world, fledgling groups with little recovery and resources either remain weak or disappear completely. Sponsor-A-Group is an opportunity to bridge these gaps, offering more people and untapped communities the precious gift of recovery in Debtors Anonymous.

For years the Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC) worked in various capacities to introduce and implement this service. Building on the experience, strength, and hope of members, the FCC has created the Sponsor-A-Group Starter Kit. The intention of this information is to provide suggested guidance on how participating groups might get started and make use of this wonderful service.

Yours in Recovery,

The Fellowship Communications Committee

## WHAT IS SPONSOR-A-GROUP (SAG)?

SPONSOR-A-GROUP is modeled after individual sponsorship. It connects strong and well-resourced groups with groups that are either just getting started or are in need of additional guidance and support. The group-to-group sponsorship exists between two D.A. meetings: the D.A. Sponsor Group and a D.A. Sponsee Group.

**D.A. Sponsor Group** is an established D.A. meeting with recovery and solvency that shares experience, strength, and hope with a select D.A. Sponsee Group

**D.A. Sponsee Group** partners with a thriving D.A. Sponsor Group to receive guidance in starting a new meeting or strengthening an existing meeting.

## HOW CAN A SPONSOR GROUP HELP A SPONSEE GROUP?

- Assist in starting a new meeting or helping a new meeting establish itself
- Provide the Sponsor Group's phone list for outreach
- Help gain access to literature
- Offer individual sponsorship for the members
- Provide PRGs (via phone, internet, and/or in person)
- Provide speakers for the Sponsee Group (in person, via phone or video chat)
- Offer ideas and guidance in creating fellowship events and workshops
- Provide guidance to those with service positions (Examples: ISR, GSR, etc.)
- Make them aware of ways to grow their meeting ([HIP](#) and [PI](#) starter kits, etc. at <https://debtorsanonymous.org/resources>)
- Establish an Intergroup representative

## HOW DO GROUPS GET STARTED IN SPONSOR-A-GROUP?

- **PASS A MOTION** at your group's business meeting to participate in Sponsor-A-Group
- **PASS A SECOND MOTION** (if previous motion passes) to create the service position of "Sponsor Group Representative" or "Sponsee Group Representative"
- **ELECT** a "Sponsor Group Representative" or "Sponsee Group Representative" for your meeting

**SPONSOR GROUP REPRESENTATIVE** is the voice of the Sponsor Group and works with the Sponsee Group Representative to determine how their group can best serve the Sponsee Group

**SPONSEE GROUP REPRESENTATIVE** is the voice of the Sponsee Group and works with the Sponsor Group Representative to determine how the Sponsor Group can best be of service to their meeting

## **Suggested service requirements for Sponsor Group**

### **Representative:**

- Is an active member of D.A., attending meetings regularly with at least three months of not incurring unsecured debt
- Has had at least two PRGs and given one PRG
- Has a Sponsor in D.A.
- Has an understanding of the Twelve Traditions of D.A.
- Has worked the 12 Steps of Debtors Anonymous or is currently working the Steps

## **Suggested term for Sponsor/Sponsee Group Representative: 1 to 2 years**

## **HOW DOES A SPONSEE GROUP CONNECT WITH A SPONSOR GROUP?**

1. Start by exploring meetings in your area (or phone/online meetings) and making note of groups with committed members where there is strong recovery:

### **Meetings in the U.S.**

<https://www.debtorsanonymous.org/find-meetings>

During announcements, state you are Sponsee Group Representative trying to connect your group with a Sponsor Group

2. As groups with GSR and ISR positions are usually well established, attend those nearest in your region if possible:

### **Intergroup Meetings**

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/find-intergroups>

### **GSR Regional Area Group Meetings**

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/find-rags>

Announce your purpose for attending the meeting (i.e. finding a Sponsor/Sponsee Group).

3. If, after exploring the meetings above, your group was unable to find a group, email **Sponsor-A-Group** by writing:  
[sponsoragroup@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:sponsoragroup@debtorsanonymous.org) requesting a match.

## **HOW DOES A SPONSOR GROUP CONNECT WITH A SPONSEE GROUP?**

1. Encourage all members of your group to announce at ANY meeting they attend that their group is available to sponsor another group
2. Email [sponsoragroup@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:sponsoragroup@debtorsanonymous.org) and request assistance in finding a match. A Fellowship Communications Committee will attempt to match your meeting with a Sponsee Group.

## **ONCE YOU HAVE A MATCH ... THEN WHAT?**

- The Sponsor Group Representative and Sponsee Group Representative exchange contact information, as they will be the voices for their respective groups and in frequent contact
- A meeting is scheduled for the representatives to assess the needs of the Sponsee Group and together will create an action plan for BOTH groups
- It is suggested that the meeting have the structure, feel and flexibility of a PRG concluding with actionable next steps with deadlines and a date to meet again. (*Suggested meeting time duration 1-1.5 hours*)

## **SAMPLE ACTION PLAN FOR SPONSEE GROUP**

- Read the D.A.-approved document “How to Keep Your Meeting Alive”
- Read the valuable information available at [Resources for Groups](https://debtorsanonymous.org/resources)  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/resources>
- Create a meeting format so it fits the needs of the group
- Emphasize the importance for members to start keeping their numbers and to share how they keep their numbers

- After 3 months of numbers encourage members to schedule PRGs with two Sponsor Group members
- Download and print [Public Information Starter Kit](#) to learn how to keep your community aware of your D.A. meeting  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/pi>
- Encourage members to read the [Debtors Anonymous Service Manual](#)  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/dams>
- Align with a [D.A. Intergroup](#) when possible  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/find-intergroups>
- Schedule speakers from the Sponsor Group to share at Sponsee Group meetings via a member's phone, Skype, etc.
- When there isn't a speaker, consider reading a story aloud from *A Currency of Hope* or [recovery stories from the D.A. website](#).  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/about-da/recovery-stories/>
- Check in with Sponsor Group Representative once a week at a scheduled time to track your group's progress
- Regularly share at your meeting about your match's progress

## **SAMPLE ACTION PLAN FOR SPONSOR GROUP**

- Edit your group's phone list or create a new one specifically for SAG to include three columns: "Available to Sponsor Sponsee Group Member", "Available to give PRG to Sponsee Group Member" and "Available to Speak at Sponsee Group Meeting." Circulate at your meetings on a regular basis
- Print copies of Sponsor-A-Group Starter Kit to hand out at your meeting and other meetings you attend
- Make arrangements for members to speak on a regular basis at the Sponsee Group (via phone, Skype, Free Conference Call, etc)
- Check-in with Sponsee Group Representative once a week at a scheduled time to track progress
- Regularly share at your meeting about your match's progress

## **MORE RESOURCES FOR GROUPS AND MEMBERS**

[Read Conference-approved D.A. literature and pamphlets](#)

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/free>

[Listen to Fellowship-wide Call speaker podcasts](#)

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/podcasts>

Sign up for eNews on the D.A. website homepage  
<https://debtorsanonymous.org/enews>

In between face to face meetings, attend:

D.A. Phone Meetings

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/find-phone-meetings>

Internet Meetings

<https://debtorsanonymous.org/find-internet-meetings>

*Aligned with D.A. principles and Traditions,  
each **Sponsor-A-Group** match and action plan is autonomous*