

We have over 130 meetings happening across our tri-county area, and SMIA is here to support every single one of them. But at our monthly meetings, we only see about 15–20 people. That tells us not everyone knows about the resources SMIA provides. Let me take just a few minutes to share what we do to support those carrying the message in Southern Maryland.

SMIA provides:

- A website with an updated, **printable meeting list, an anniversary calendar**, and an **online shop for literature and medallions**. All meeting updates are passed along to the Area 29 website and the online AA Meeting Guide app.
- A **24/7 telephone hotline** so newcomers never have to wonder where to turn.
- The monthly Lifeline newsletter—packed with articles, anniversaries, and events.
- *Where & Whens*, our printed meeting list that keeps recovery accessible, even when Wi-Fi isn't.
- A bookstall budget to help our three districts carry the message into treatment and detention centers, and public spaces.
- Plus, the fellowship events we all love: the Serenity Breakfast, Summer Picnic, and tonight's Gratitude Dinner.

The bottom line—SMIA exists to serve you—but it can't do it without you. So how can you help us help you carry AA's message of recovery?

- If your group doesn't have an SMIA rep—step up or introduce a group member or sponsee to the joys of service.
- **If your group isn't contributing financially—start now. Every dollar supports the services that support you.**
- **Write an article for the Lifeline**—Keith is always looking for articles that spotlight service or share what works for you.
- **Volunteer to answer the phone and be the voice of hope on the other end of the line when a newcomer calls.**
- **And make sure to submit your group's anniversaries so they can be included in the Lifeline and on the website.**

SMIA is here to help every group carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. Together, let's make sure no group, and no alcoholic, misses out on the resources available. When groups participate, it helps keep the message of hope within reach for the next person who needs it.

So if you're curious, attend an SMIA meeting. Sit in, listen, ask questions. Bring ideas from your group and bring back news from Intergroup that might spark something new. We meet on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church in Mechanicsville.

When we show up for each other, the circle widens. And that's how this whole thing keeps working: one act of service, one connection, one drunk extending the hand of hope to another.