

Crystal Meth Anonymous®

PUBLIC INFORMATION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE (PI&O)

SPEAKER GUIDELINES



CMA PI&O Committee Approved Literature

This document has been approved by the Public Information & Outreach Committee and it is to be used widely by the Fellowship. We encourage feedback and comment so that they may be considered in the future updates.

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PI&O SPEAKER GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are suggested for speakers to a non-addict audience in support of the mission of Public Information & Outreach (PI&O) for Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA).

The PI&O Committee's mission is to provide and communicate consistent and readily available information and resources to all of those affected by crystal meth.

CMA Preamble

Crystal Meth Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other, so they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from addiction to crystal meth. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. There are no dues or fees for CMA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. CMA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; and neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to lead a sober life and to carry the message of recovery to the crystal meth addict who still suffers.

The guidelines are presented in three sections to address considerations and requirements for the audience, speaker and content.

Audience

It is important for the speaker to ascertain:

- What is the purpose of the presentation?
- Who is the audience?
- What is the relationship of the members of the audience to crystal meth addicts? Do they have direct contact with the addict?
- Are they members of an organization?
- What is the primary purpose of the organization?
- Is the speaker invited to a regularly scheduled meeting of the organization or a special meeting to address a specific topic?

Speaker

- The speaker will request anonymity from the organization
- The speaker should not use his full name when speaking publicly and should introduce himself as a sober member of crystal meth anonymous. i.e., "my name is Dave and I am a sober member of Crystal Meth Anonymous"
- The primary purpose of the speaker is to carry the message of CMA in order to reach the addict who still suffers we do not give any medical advice.
- The speaker does not speak as an expert or professional, but as a member of CMA.
- While speakers do not speak on behalf of CMA, they are the face of CMA to that group in that moment and should conduct themselves accordingly.
- The speaker has a working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

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- The speaker will coordinate with the level of the organizational structure of CMA appropriate for the speaking engagement, e.g., intergroup concerning local matters, area for matters affecting the area as a whole, etc.
- The number of speakers will depend on the requirements of the meeting.
- Whenever possible a speaker ought not attend an engagement without another member of CMA.

Precautions for speakers:

- Clarify the CMA tradition of anonymity when coordinating the speaking engagement.
- Be careful not to have the CMA name linked by publicity to the activities of another organization.
- Mention that they speak for themselves only, not for CMA as a whole.
- Know the audience! Be cognizant and respectful of who they are and what they represent.
- Dress appropriately and use appropriate language.
- Focus on the solution.

Content

The following items are suggested as possible content for a talk before a non-addict audience:

What Is Crystal Meth Anonymous?

- Preamble (from crystallmeth.org)
- Available (meetings, events)
- Free (7th Tradition, self-supporting)
- It Works! Our Personal Experience with:
 - Recovery (Twelve Steps with a sponsor)
 - Service (carrying the message, commitments, sponsorship)
 - Unity (Twelve Traditions, spiritual principles to ensure a consistent message)

Potential questions for speakers to consider as preparation:

- What are the Twelve Steps?
- How is CMA organized?
- How old is CMA?
- Where did CMA get started?
- How long has CMA been in this area?
- What are the requirements for membership?
- Is CMA a religious organization?
- What is crystal meth addiction?
- What is the profile of an addict?

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- What can the non-addict do to help?

In addition, the following questions have frequently been asked of our Fellowship:

- What are meetings like? Do I have to register for CMA 'classes'? How much does it cost? Where do I find a meeting?
- I want to help a friend/family member. Where do I start? Can I attend meetings to help support him/her?
- Are the meetings listed on the website up to date?
- What do I do if there isn't CMA in my area?

Suggestions that the speaker might offer to the non-addict:

- Get the addict in touch with CMA
- Provide CMA literature to the addict
- Offer to attend CMA meetings with the addict