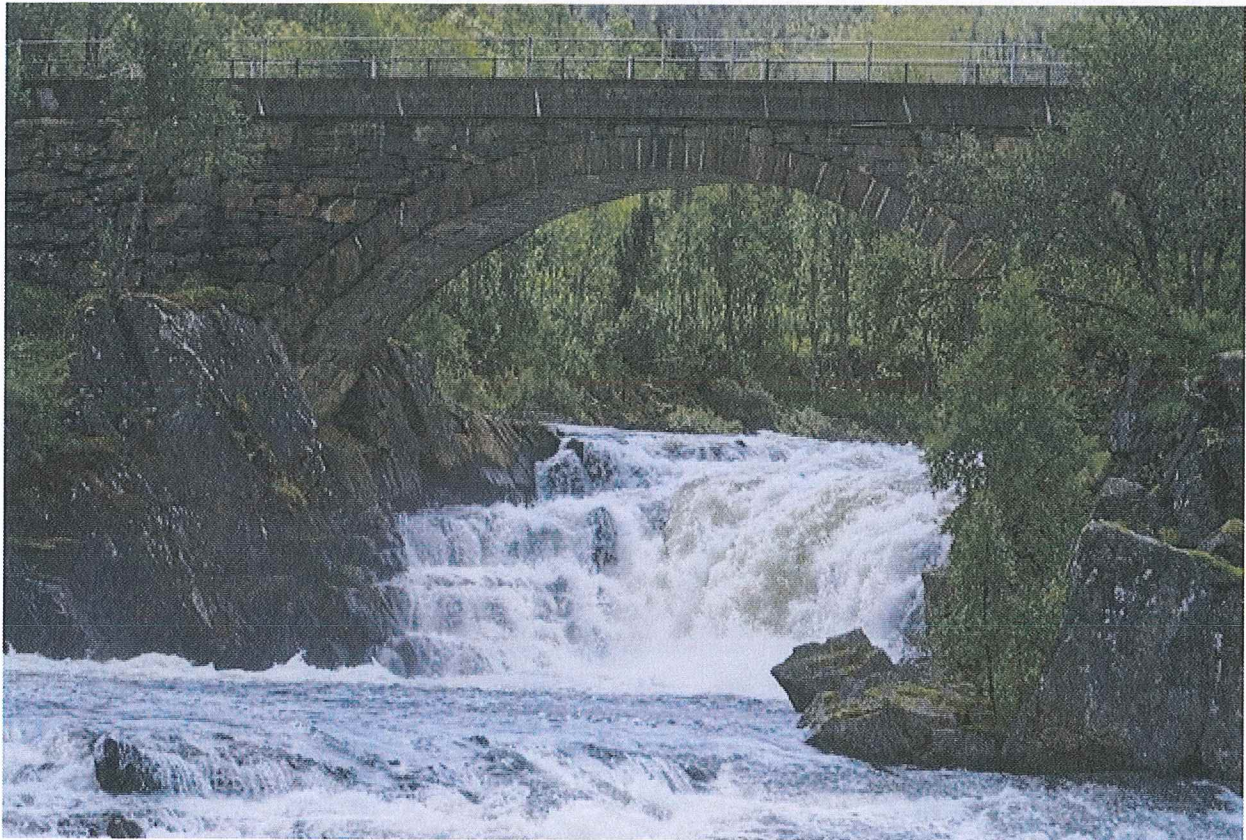


BRIDGING THE GAP



PURPOSE

- A temporary contact for individuals leaving treatment or other facilities
- Concept is modeled similarly to Alcoholics Anonymous in that it is 'one drunk talking to another, each reinforcing the other's understanding that they can find a way to face life sober'.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Serves as a temporary contact for alcoholics in treatment
- Includes treatment centers, crisis centers, detoxes, hospitals
- Intent is to provide recently released or discharged individuals with a contact to introduce them to Alcoholics Anonymous

PROCESS

- The individual reaches out after discharge. Individual is called a 'Bridge'.
- The Bridge is placed in contact with an AA in their home area. The AA is encouraged to accompany the newcomer to a variety of AA meetings including but not limited to online meetings, Step Study, open discussion meetings, Big Book Studies, and gratitude meetings.
- Introduce the newcomer to AA literature
- Explain sponsorship and 'How it Works'.
- Explain the importance of a Home Group and fellowship

QUESTIONS

- AA'S are not required to provide transportation. They are simply someone for the Bridge to call to help them become connected with Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - AA's are not required to meet the Bridge alone. They are encouraged to bring another AA as in a 12 Step call if they do meet a Bridge.
 - The Bridge will be matched by the BTG Intergroup Chair to an AA in their district. Men are matched to men and women to women.
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GCI - Bridge The Gap Volunteer Sign Up

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