

## THE CONVENER

In the beginning the convener was also the volunteer input speaker. Now the speaker turns the task of convening to a volunteer facilitator. Convening is a simple task of reading the procedures. This is ours.

### Southside Men's Group Facilitator's Guide For Saturday Morning

---

**8:15 a.m.**, Arrive early to greet new people, check the room, collection basket, nametags, etc.

**8:30 a.m.**, Get everyone's attention for starting the meeting on time.

---

**A GOOD MORNING! THIS IS THE SOUTHSIDE MEN'S GROUP.** (Welcome everyone in your own way.)

**B MY NAME IS \_\_\_\_\_.** I'm the FACILITATOR for today's gathering and my job is to keep us on task.

**C OUR PURPOSE HERE IS PERSONAL GROWTH** defined as positive change within ourselves, within our relationships and within the community.

- We value sharing our feelings openly and honestly with one another, listening without judging or giving unsolicited advice, supporting those who risk change, and celebrating with those who do change."
- To keep this an enriching and safe experience, members are expected to express their feelings, ideas, differences and concerns in a constructive and respectful way; and to keep everything shared here confined to this room.

#### **D WHAT WE DO HERE**

We begin with a volunteer speaker who shares some aspect of his personal growth. We then divide into small groups where each person is encouraged to go deeper into the growth work he needs to do. At about 10:00 o'clock, each group closes with something agreed upon, like "The Serenity Prayer."

#### **E THE VOLUNTEER SPEAKER CALENDAR**

(Look at the sign-up calendar listing future speakers. Announce the date of the next open Saturday and pass the calendar around for signing up.)

**F DO WE HAVE ANY NEW PEOPLE, or people who haven't been here for quite awhile?**

Would you tell us your name and how you learned about our group—or—tell us what's happened since you were last here.

#### **G ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

*Are there any reports, personal "breakthroughs", birthdays, tragedies or upcoming events? Or, does anyone want to initiate a social or accountability group, or a task team seeking to enrich our Saturday process?*

#### **H REGARDING OUR EXPENSES. . . .**

*"We all share in the cost for using this room which is \$5 each, and that includes the coffee and goodies. The collection basket is being passed around. If this is your first time here put nothing in the basket.*

#### **I 8:45 (Approx.) TIME FOR THE SPEAKER**

*Normally the speaker finishes about 9:00 o'clock followed by a few comments and questions from the group. At the end, a question may be posed for any small group to discuss – if it chooses to do so.*

Today's speaker is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **J 9:10 (Approx.) TIME FOR SMALL GROUPS**

*Many men have said the small group work is the most valuable part of their mornings here.*

*A couple of reminders before we count off. . . .*

*First, each man is responsible for holding the group to its task and making sure each person is given time to speak.*

*Second, After we count off we'd like you to join your group quickly so we don't waste valuable time.*

*Are there any passes today?*

Based on the number of men present less the passes, the facilitator determines how many groups we'll have. Start with the speaker as # 1.