

District 72 Treatment Committee

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at Bozeman Health: Carrying the Message within the Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Unit through Cooperation

For over four decades, AA maintained limited service involvement with Bozeman Health Hospital. Members communicated directly with physicians and responded to Twelfth Step calls upon request. At times, medical staff would contact individual AA members they knew to speak with patients. Healthcare systems have since evolved. HIPAA regulations and institutional policies now govern patient privacy and volunteer engagement, requiring more formalized processes.

In the spring of 2025, the Bozeman Health Inpatient Psychiatric Unit (IPU) contacted the District 72 Treatment Committee to request that AA provide a meeting within their facility exclusively for IPU patients. Participation in Bozeman Health's volunteer program requires completion of a multi-step application and orientation process. IPU staff have worked closely with the District 72 Treatment Committee to establish clear facility guidelines and ensure compliance. This new AA service commitment represents many hours of collaboration and preparation.

This spirit of cooperation with Bozeman Health to serve IPU patients is a significant development. We are hopeful it marks the beginning of a strengthened and ongoing relationship with the hospital and, most importantly, with those who may be seeking recovery.