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CITY OF DANBURY  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
155 DEER HILL AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Central Health Office  
Tel: (203) 797-4625  
Fax: (203) 796-1596

Social Services Office  
Tel: (203) 797-4569  
Fax: (203) 797-4566

March 8, 2012

Mayor Mark Boughton & City Council  
City Hall  
155 Deer Hill Ave.  
Danbury, CT 06810

RE: AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Alcoholics Anonymous, or AA, is requesting the City of Danbury's Emergency Homeless Shelter in providing their services, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) enclosed. This organization will provide weekly meetings, one evening per week at the shelter for homeless individuals only. If this particular group and meeting are received well, the meetings may be open to the general public after careful consideration by both Department Director and staff.

Many of our homeless clients are struggling with alcohol abuse and dependency. The goal of our Emergency Shelter is to assist and provide vital support services in our community that will prevent, control and eventually resolve any substance and dependency use and abuse.

There are no matching requirements for this fund. The general public is under tremendous mental and physical stresses due to the nation's difficult economic times. Individuals seek many means of coping with these unusual day to day stresses. Some individuals are able to deal with these pressures, others are less fortunate and seek out the services at our Emergency Shelter and Day Center.

With this additional weekly service provided to the Emergency Shelter along with other support services offered on a daily basis, the Shelter will continue to sponsor, encourage and promote any viable manner of assistance to this much needed population in meeting the objectives of the Mayor's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Sincerely,

Scott LeRoy  
Director of Health & Human Services

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (A.A.)

March 8, 2012

Mr. Scott LeRoy  
Director of Health and Human Services  
City of Danbury  
155 Deer Hill Avenue  
Danbury, Connecticut 06810

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Recognizing the common interest in providing a much needed service for the homeless population seeking assistance in meeting the objective of sobriety, **Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.)** (the "parties" to this *Memorandum of Agreement* "MOA") have reached the following agreement:

Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) will provide the following:

1. A.A. members will share their experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem; they will give person-to-person service or "sponsorship" to the alcoholic coming to A.A. from any source.
2. The A.A. program, set forth in their Twelve Steps, offers the alcoholic a way to develop a satisfying life without alcohol.
3. The A.A. meeting conducted at the City of Danbury Emergency Shelter will take place one day a week, a time and date to be decided by all parties, for approximately 1 ½ hours.
4. An **open speaker** meeting will entail the A.A. member "telling their stories." These speakers will discuss their experience with alcohol, how they came to A.A., and how their lives have changed as a result of Alcoholics Anonymous.

- 5. Open **discussion** meetings in which a member speaks briefly about his or her drinking experience, and then leads a discussion on A.A. recovery or any drinking-related problem one may want to discuss.
- 6. It is tradition in AA that anonymity is the spiritual foundation and in keeping with this we use first names only.

The New Street Homeless Shelter will provide the following:

- 1. Will provide an area/room for Alcoholics Anonymous staff/speakers for their weekly meeting.
- 2. Will provide a secure room or cabinet to store any literature, twelve step method banner, pamphlets, etc. for weekly meetings.
- 3. City of Danbury Emergency Shelter staff will, initially be present for weekly meeting to encourage participation of the homeless population and check attendance of clients.

There are no fees attached or required by both the A.A. representatives and City staff.

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**Scott LeRoy, Director of Health**

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**Sue Zaborowski, Social Service Manager**

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**Michael Finn, Shelter Coordinator**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Clare W.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Christa K.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Lee S.**



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

\_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 2012

**RESOLVED** BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANBURY

**WHEREAS**, Alcoholics Anonymous ("AA") has offered to provide the Danbury Homeless Shelter with assistance and support services in the New Street facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the Danbury Director of Health and Human Services is desirous of utilizing said services to help those in need of counseling and related services to the homeless population; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement would outline the tasks and services to be provided and there are no matching funds toward the contributed cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the services will be provided on a weekly or periodic basis up to that maximum amount.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Scott LeRoy, Director of Health, be and hereby is authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Alcoholics Anonymous for the provision of services to the homeless in accordance with their program and under the auspices of the offices of the Danbury Health and Human Services Department.