

- The group requirements must prohibit overt or covert sexual interaction between any adult and CoDAteen member.
- The group requirements must prohibit conduct contrary to applicable laws.
- Research their local area for legal requirements according to the law.
- The group requirements must contain procedures which include the Parental Permission Letter and minor medical care for the teen when necessary. It might be possible to accept a referral from a counselor, teacher, or doctor. See the example of the Parental Permission Letter in section 5 – Service Forms, in the CoDAteen Meeting Handbook.
- Adopt a process with the adult CoDAteen committee for training CoDAteen adult hosts/meeting sponsors, using recommendations and resources from the CoDAteen Meeting Handbook, coda.org and coda.org/codateen webpage
- Adopt a process for addressing any problematic behaviors within the CoDAteen group, using recommendations and resources from the CoDAteen Meeting Handbook and coda.org/codateen webpage.
- Register the CoDAteen meeting with the CoDAteen Committee and CoDA World. coda.org/codateen
- Contact: codateen@coda.org

What is CoDAteen?

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Title page

What is CoDAteen?

Co-Dependents Anonymous

BOX FOR MEETING INFO

What is CoDAteen?

Part of the Fellowship of Co-Dependents Anonymous, CoDAteen, is a community of young people whose common purpose is to develop healthy and loving relationships.

CoDAteen members are usually 13 to 18 year-olds. Through their group conscience, each group can choose the age range they prefer, including college and university students who are older than 18, when agreed upon.

CoDAteen Meetings

Using a similar format as an adult CoDA meeting, CoDAteen provides a way for young people to discover healthy and loving relationships with their Higher Power, themselves, and others. Teens can identify with other teens who have similar feelings and problems and find common solutions. Just like adult CoDA members, CoDAteens do CoDA step work, sponsor each other, and have the opportunity to define a Higher Power of their own understanding.

Adult Sponsoring Group

Each CoDAteen meeting, whether in person or online, must have an adult CoDA sponsoring group. The adult CoDA sponsoring group:

- Supervises CoDAteen business meetings.
- Helps with transportation.
- Helps with finances and rent.
- Recruits adult hosts/meeting sponsors.
- Provides alternate adult hosts/meeting sponsors when needed.
- Supports special CoDAteen events.
- Ensures compliance with any local legal requirements for working with teens.

- Assures adult hosts/meeting sponsors and all other adult CoDA members working with minors meets the **Minimum Behavioral and Safety Requirements for CoDAteen**.

Local, regional, intergroups, and voting entities maintain responsibility for the CoDAteen group. Having the adult sponsoring group allows the CoDAteen group to establish its autonomy as a CoDA group within CoDA as a whole.

The Role of Adults in Meetings

The role of the CoDAteen adult host/meeting sponsor is to ensure a safe place for teens to work the CoDA program. Adult support encourages, and guides the group as a whole, in a healthy manner. They address inappropriate or problematic behavior when necessary. CoDAteen adult hosts/meeting sponsors do not serve as personal sponsors to individual CoDAteens.

Training Resources for Adult Hosts/Meeting Sponsors

The CoDA adult sponsoring group and adult CoDAteen committee share the responsibility of adopting a process to train and vet adult host/meeting sponsors, using recommendations and resources from the CoDAteen Meeting Handbook. Workshops, retreats, and reading materials may be used for this training. Section 3 of the CoDAteen Meeting Handbook offers recommended resources endorsed by the CoDA Service Conference (CSC).

Behavior and Safety Requirements

Every adult CoDA member and adult CoDA host/meeting sponsor involved in CoDAteen must:

- Be a CoDA member who regularly attends CoDA meetings, has a CoDA sponsor, and is actively working CoDA's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions according to the CoDA program of recovery.
- Be at least 25 years old.
- Have a minimum of three years of recovery in CoDA, including participation in CoDA service work.
- Have never been convicted of a felony.
- Have never been charged with any form of child abuse.
- Have never been charged with or demonstrated any inappropriate sexual behavior or been named on any sexual offenders list.
- Demonstrate emotional stability and sobriety.
- Remain free from mind altering substances during meetings and service work.
- Not have demonstrated violent tendencies or coercive abuse that could harm a CoDAteen member.

Other Requirements

- There must be two CoDA adult host/meeting sponsors at every CoDAteen meeting. However, if this is not possible, one CoDA adult host/meeting sponsor who is trained, vetted, and sponsored by a CoDA sponsoring group, and meets all other requirements, may be acceptable under special circumstances, for a minimum period.