

**Addiction Recovery Mutual Aid Groups in the United States:
A Chronology of Founding Dates
(as of February 2010)**

William L. White, MA
Chestnut Health Systems (bwhite@chestnut.org)

Early Native Recovery “Circles” (1737-1770)
Handsome Lake Religion (1799)
Shawnee Prophet Movement (1805)
Washingtonians (1840)
Martha Washington Society (1841)
Fraternal Temperance Societies
 Sons of Temperance (1842)
 Independent Order of Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria
(1847)
 Order of Good Templars (1851)
Dashaway Association (1859)
Ollapod Club (1868)
Ribbon Reform Clubs
 Royal Ribbon Reform Club (1871)
 Blue Ribbon Reform Club (1871)
 Red Ribbon Reform Club (1874)
Drunkard’s Club (1871)
Godwin Association (1872)
Sacred Peyote Societies (1870s-1880s)
 Peyote Way (Pledge to ethical code/sobriety)
 Native American Church (1918)
Indian Shaker Church (1882)
Peyotism (1870s); American Indian Church (1918)
Business Men’s Moderation Society (1879)
Indian Shaker Church (1882)
Keeley Leagues (1891)
Keswick Colony of Mercy (1879)
Brotherhood of St. Luke (1904)
Jacoby Club (1910)
United Order of Ex-Boozers (1914)
Alcoholics Anonymous (1935)
Calix Society (1947)
Addicts Anonymous (1947)

Alcoholics Victorious (1948)
International Doctors in Alcoholics Anonymous (1949)
NOTROL Group (in Federal penitentiary in Lorton, VA)(1950)
Al-Anon (1951)
Habit Forming Drugs (1951)
Hypes and Alcoholics (early 1950s)
Narcotics Anonymous (NY) (1950)
Narcotics Anonymous (CA) (1953)
Alateen (1957)
Synanon (1958)
International Conference of Young People in AA (1958)
All Addicts Anonymous (originally meeting as the “Nut Club”)(1959)
Nar-Anon (1967)
Recovered Alcoholic Clergy Association (of the Episcopal Church) (1968)
Potsmokers Anonymous (1968)
Families Anonymous (1971)
Drug Abusers Anonymous (1972)
Caduceus Group (recovery support meetings for physicians and other health professionals; 1973)
Alcoholics Anonymous for Atheists and Agnostics (“Quad A”) (1974)
Pills Anonymous (1975)
Women for Sobriety (1975)
International Lawyers in Alcoholics Anonymous (1975)
Birds of a Feather (pilots in A.A.)(1975)
Alcoholics for Christ (1977)
Overcomers Outreach (1977)
Adult Children of Alcoholics (1978)
Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent People and Significant Others (JACS, 1979)
Intercongregational Addictions Program (1979)
Liontamers Anonymous (1980)
Chemically Dependent Anonymous (1980)
Psychologists Helping Psychologists (1980)
American Atheists Alcohol Recovery Group (1980)
Social Workers Helping Social Workers (1981)
All Recoveries Anonymous (1981)
The Red Road (1981)
Cocaine Anonymous (1982)
Dual Disorder Anonymous (1982)
International Pharmacists Anonymous (1983/1984)

Anesthetists in Recovery (1984)
Nicotine Anonymous (1985)
Secular Organization for Sobriety (1985)
Free N'One (1985)
Co-Anon (1985)
Overcomers Outreach (1985)
Co-Dependents Anonymous (1986)
Addictions Victorious (1986)
Rational Recovery (1986)
Addicts Victorious (1987)
Overcomers in Christ (1987)
International Ministers and Pastors in Recovery (1988)
International Nurses Anonymous (1988)
Men for Sobriety (1988)
Recovering Couples Anonymous (1988)
Winners Community (1988/1993)
Native American Wellbriety Movement (1981)
Benzodiazepines Anonymous (1989)
Double Trouble in Recovery (1989)
Millati Islami (1989)
Marijuana Anonymous (1989)
Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy (1990)
Veterinarians in Recovery (1990)
Celebrate Recovery (1991)
Methadone Anonymous (1991)
Christians in Recovery (1992)
16 Step Empowerment & Discovery Groups (1992)
Moderation Management (1994)
Self Management and Recovery Training--SMART Recovery (1994)
One Church—One Addict (1994)
Crystal Meth Anonymous (1995)
Reformers Unanimous (1996)
Clergy Recovery Network (1997)
Dual Diagnosis Anonymous (1998)
Prescription Drugs Anonymous (1998)
Benzo (1999)
LifeRing Secular Recovery (1999)
Teen-Anon (1999)
Moms Off Meth (1999)
Grief after Substance Passing (1999)

Sobriety Steppers (MN chapter of International Organization of Good Templars; late 1990s)
Teen Addiction Anonymous (2003)
Heroin Anonymous (2004)
Mothers on Methadone (2005)
Lawyer's LifeRing (2007)
Buddhist Recovery Network (2008)
Harm Reduction, Abstinence, and Moderation Support Network (2009)

Groups without Known Founding Dates

Pagans in Recovery
Jewish Recovery Network