Advancing Substance Use Recovery Public Science Collaborative Ames, Iowa



Finding Meetings Shouldn't Be Hard

Finding local support when needed can be essential to a successful recovery journey. Despite the value of recovery meetings, finding a nearby meeting can be challenging, particularly for people new to the community, those wanting to try a new or different type of meeting or those who may be in crisis. The numerous steps of scouring through several websites to find a time and location that works make it unnecessarily difficult for recoverees to find support.

To fill this need, the Public Science Collaborative simplified finding recovery meetings by developing the Meetings Finder. This tool offers real-time information about 15 types of recovery meetings in the state of lowa, like Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and SMART Recovery. It simplifies the process of finding a meeting by providing a user-friendly map interface and various filters, allowing users to search based on location, time, meeting format, and other preferences. Moreover, the Meetings Finder Tool features a responsive design, ensuring smooth and efficient performance on multiple devices, including computers and smartphones.

Combining Data into One Resource

The Meetings Finder provides a one-stop shop, helping individuals in recovery to effortlessly find a meeting that matches their needs. Powered by an automated data pipeline, this tool gathers and updates information daily from approximately 1800 recovery meetings on peer-support websites. It then seamlessly integrates this data into a highly accessible web application, ensuring users have up-to-date information at their fingertips. The Meetings Finder is a dynamic tool that allows new pathways to be added as they become available.

The primary meeting offerings for recovery in Iowa focus on Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon/Alateen, and Narcotics Anonymous. The other meetings identified include Adult Children of Alcoholics, Buddhist Recovery, Celebrate Recovery, CRUSH, Crystal Meth Anonymous, Dual Recovery Anonymous, Nar-Anon, Pills Anonymous, Recovery Community Centers, Refuge Recovery, and SMART Recovery.

Scan here to use this tool!





