

AFIRE™

LEADER TIP #4



If your parish / congregation does not currently have a recovery support group, your AFIRE™ group can advocate to start one.

That does not mean that your group will have to facilitate those meetings. You probably have enough to do! Rather, your AFIRE™ group can begin a campaign to see if there is any interest in starting a recovery support group, and speak to your pastor about the importance of all churches offering support in these dire times.

You can also gather a list of interested people and guide and encourage them as they begin the process. We are here to help too!

Here are some specifically Christian support groups:

- Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, 12 step recovery program

- The Calix Society is a Catholic association for people in recovery
- Overcomers In Christ is a nondenominational, faith-based ministry

There are many others (including AA, NA, Al-Anon, etc.)! For more information on the many support groups visit: facesandvoicesofrecovery.org, and click on "mutual aid resources."

Another important group for your parish / congregation to consider is:

- SMART RECOVERY and SMART RECOVERY FAMILY & FRIENDS. These are science-based programs that utilize the latest psychological research to provide real tools to help change behavior.

More TIPS to come! Keep up the great work. Never underestimate the power of each small thing you do. Together we will bring the light of hope into the epidemic.