

Suggested Guidelines for choosing a name for your Mar-Anon Meeting group* - G1

Mar-Anon Tradition Four:

“Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting other groups or Mar-Anon as a whole.”

- A Mar-Anon meeting group’s name reflects the spirit of Mar-Anon’s primary purpose: welcoming and offering comfort to the families and friends whose loved ones are affected by marijuana use. Also, group names often appear on websites and local meeting lists.
- For anonymity, a meeting group name does not include the words Mar-Anon.
- Group names may include the topic or focus of the meeting, such as a Step or slogan, or a phrase that reflects Mar-Anon principles.
- For in-person groups, the group name may reference the geographic area or town where the meeting is held. Example: *East Bay MFG*
- When selecting a group name, care is taken to avoid the appearance of affiliation with, or endorsement of, outside organizations, other Twelve Step programs, religious beliefs, or meeting facilities.
- It is suggested that all Mar-Anon meeting groups include the letters MFG (Mar-Anon Family Groups) in the title to ensure members’ anonymity. Example: *Partners in Healing MFG*
- Keeping it simple and short for a group name is often best.
- A group’s name is a reflection of Mar-Anon Step Twelve in action. Nicknames or attempts at humor in a group name may confuse or deter potential newcomers and, therefore, are discouraged.
- The Mar-Anon Family Groups Board will acknowledge group names that also specify a particular member focus - for example men, women, parents, adult children, young adults, or those of diverse gender identities or sexual orientation - provided that, in accordance with Traditions Three and Five, the groups **welcomes anyone and everyone** affected by someone else’s marijuana use.
- In the spirit of unity and continuity, the Mar-Anon Family Groups Board will review group names and may request a name change if it is not in harmony with Mar-Anon principles.

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Mar-Anon Tradition Three: *People who are affected by another’s marijuana use, when gathered together for mutual aid, may call themselves a Mar-Anon Family Group provided that, **as a group**, they have no other affiliation.*

Mar-Anon Tradition Five:

Each Mar-Anon group has but one purpose: to help and support those affected by another’s marijuana use.

**Adapted from Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, 2022-2025*