

Aims of a referral

- To pass the person on as though they were a precious gift rather than an awkward bundle.
- To pass the person on so that their life and experience is added to rather than taken away from.
- To make sure the person understands that the “passing on” that I’m doing is not a rejection of them, but my best attempt to help them meet their needs better.
- To make sure that the person knows that even though they are being referred on now, they will welcome to seek help from me or the agency I am working for at any point in the future, at which point I will again do my best to help them meet their needs.

From Saunders P. 2002 First steps in counselling