

Join the Circle

Circle Sponsors

- Congregations, businesses, and service organizations to take responsibility for organizing and supporting a circle.

Volunteers

- Individuals interested in participating in a circle.

Volunteer Expectations

- Participate in training
- 3 to 7 volunteers per circle
- Regular weekly circle meetings
- Time commitment decreases as Core Member adjusts

Partnerships

The program works closely with:

- Local faith communities
- Local and state probation and parole
- Other government and not-for-profit agencies interested in offender reintegration

Disclaimer:

CCP's Circles of Support and Accountability Program is not directly or indirectly associated with the Community Renewal for Sexual Offenders (CR-SO) Program.

Other Programs of the Center for Community Peacemaking

- Victim-Offender Conferencing
- Making Peace (*Strategies in Conflict Resolution for Youth*)
- Peacemaking Circles (*Resolving Conflict in Various Community Settings*)



53 N. Duke Street, Suite 303

Lancaster, PA 17602

Phone: 717-397-2404

Fax: 717-397-5502

Email: accountabilitycircles@ccp.org

www.ccp.org



Circles of Support and Accountability

Building Safer Communities by Supporting and Holding Accountable Released Sex Offenders

Our Mission

To foster peacemaking and the resolution of conflict through the teaching and implementation of Restorative Justice values and principles.

**BUILDING COMMUNITY...
PEACE BY PEACE**

Life-Changing Relationships

A Circle is made up of trained volunteers and a released sex offender (the Core Member), who work together to ensure the safe transition of the Core Member into the community.

The Circle:

- Operates on the basis of equality and consensus decision making
- Works closely with therapists and other service providers
- Meets regularly with the Core Member
- Connects the Core Member with resources in the community
- Assists the Core Member in developing and adhering to a relapse prevention plan
- Assists the Core Member in developing positive social relationships
- Confronts the Core Member about attitudes and behavior
- Assists the Core Member in responding to community concerns
- Celebrates victories in the journey to reintegration

GOALS

Community

Our goal is to enhance community safety by enabling the Core Member to live offense-free.

Core Member

Our goals are to ensure that the Core Member is accountable to principles of responsible behavior and to support the Core Member in becoming a responsible, contributing member of the community.

Victims

While we only work directly with offenders, the experience of victims affects our work. Our goal is to acknowledge the needs of victims by:

- Recognizing the serious harms they have suffered and their need for support and healing.
- Cooperating with victim support agencies who assist those harmed by core members.
- Functioning in a way that is supportive of victims and those who work with them.

CORE VALUES

No More Victims

The Circle helps the Core Member change behaviors to prevent re-offending.

No Human Is Disposable

Core Members are seen as human beings who have value and are capable of change and are worthy of friendship.

Guiding Principles

- The community has responsibility for restoring victims and reintegrating offenders.
- Victims have experienced deep pain and continue to need caring, supportive relationships in their journey toward healing.
- The offender is welcomed into a community of accountability and care that functions in responsible, safe, healthy, and life-giving ways.
- The Circle seeks to be an agent of healing within our communities and to offer radical hospitality.

