

Achieving Successful Transition

Employment

Employment is one of the best predictors of success.

Housing

A stable home is essential to building a new life.

Family and Peer Support

Creating healthy relationships with positive, consistently encouraging people is important.

Treatment Programs

Drug or alcohol abuse and mental health issues are often at the root of the problem. Addressing these is necessary for success.

Community Support

Circles of Support provide the broad-based support needed to become a productive citizen.

Circles of Support

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Want a presentation
to your group?

Ask John David
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Circles of Support (COS)
is a program offered through the
Compassionate Community Faith Alliance
(CCFA).



CirclesOfSupport

*Compassionate
Community*

*Transformative
Relationships*

Productive Citizens

What are Circles of Support?

Circles of Support are groups of 4-5 community members who meet weekly with someone recently released from jail or prison (called a “core member”) to assist her or him in making a successful transition from incarceration to stable life in the community.

Why are Circles Important?

Statewide, fifty percent of people released into the community will end up back in jail or prison at an annual cost to taxpayers of \$30,000 per person.

Community support during the first 6-12 months after release is critical to successful reintegration.

Circles of Support promote community safety, compassionate relationships, and reduced likelihood of recidivism.

Please contact us to learn more about becoming a volunteer or about ways to partner with us.

Who Should Be Involved?

Circles of Support welcome involvement from:

- Community Members
- Neighbors
- Employers
- Faith Communities
- Community Organizations
- Education Professionals
- Social Service Agencies
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Department of Corrections

Volunteer Training

Citizen volunteers provide moral support and encouragement. They receive specialized training in listening, strengths-based support, and practical skills to help a Core Member plan and succeed in her or his reintegration.

Trainings are held every few months or whenever at least 4 volunteers are ready to begin.

How Do Circles Work?

1. Motivated people in jail or prison seek a Circle of their own free will.
2. A Core Member is accepted into the program when she or he:
 - Completes the application and interview process;
 - Identifies her or his needs and expresses willingness and readiness to change old habits; and
 - Sets goals focused on law-abiding and productive community behavior.
3. A Circle of Support acts as a circle of equals, circle of neighbors.
4. A Circle creates an environment of hope and confidence, and focuses on personal strengths.
5. All participants make a 6-month commitment to the Circle. A Circle may continue as long as they wish.

Application details are available upon request.